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F.Mackenzie. J.Le Keux.

GENERAL VIEW FROM MERTON FIELD.

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MEMORIALS

OF

OXFORD,

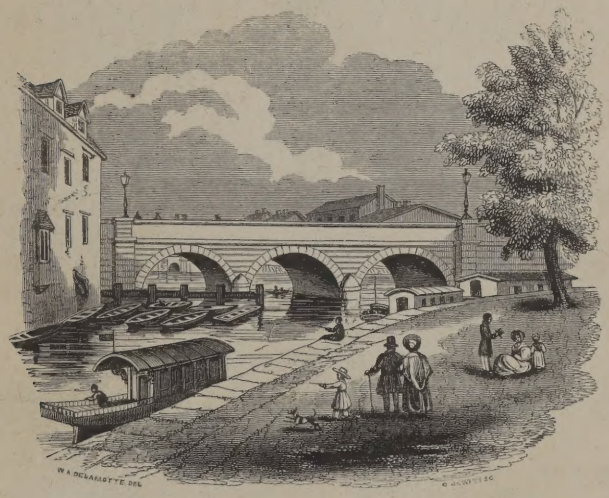
BY

JAMES INGRAM, D. D.

PRESIDENT OF TRINITY COLLEGE.

THE ENGRAVINGS BY JOHN LE KEUX,

FROM DRAWINGS BY F. MACKENZIE.



VOLUME III.

OXFORD: JOHN HENRY PARKER;

H. SLATTER, AND W. GRAHAM.

CHARLES TILT, LONDON.

MDCCCXXXVII.

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J. Fisher.

J. Le Keux.

PLAN OF THE UNIVERSITY AND CITY OF OXFORD.

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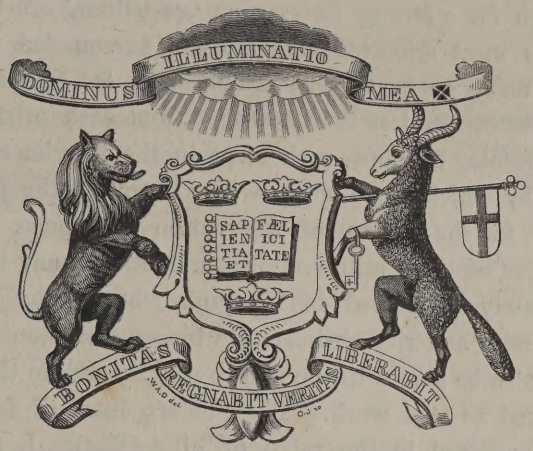
MEMORIALS OF OXFORD.



ARMS OF THE UNIVERSITY; FROM THE EAST WINDOW OF THE BODLEIAN LIBRARY [a].

General History of the University and City.

THE city of Oxford, properly so called, appears almost antecedently to any authentic record to have been encompassed with strong and lofty walls; portions of which still remain in many parts of its ancient precincts: particularly on the north and east sides of New College; that society having constantly repaired them in strict accordance with their original character, as bound by a composition between their founder and the city [b].

[a] This escutcheon is remarkable, as combining together the three mottos or legends used in succession by the university.

[b] Many houses also, denominated in the Domesday Survey *mural* mansions, were expressly held on condition of repairing the wall, as

These walls were of an oblong form, nearly square from the east end to about the middle, where they assumed a kind of parabolic curve on each side, gradually contracting towards the west end, so as to afford just space enough for a strong fortress, or 'castellum,' constructed in the most scientific manner, and surrounded with a deep moat, gates, turrets, drawbridges, &c.[c] At regular intervals of less than 200 feet from each other were semicircular bastions, with steps in the interior concave part, by which there was an easy ascent to the parapet above, for the purpose of observation or defence. Many of these bastions still remain; and others may be seen accurately delineated in Loggan's ichnography of the university and city, dedicated to bishop Compton. They may also be traced in the map by Agas, and in the plan annexed to this work. The modern lines of fortification, prepared in the reign of king Charles I. for the defence of the city, from a plan by Rallingson of Queen's, improved by Beckman, have been repeatedly engraved.

The first historian, who collected materials to illustrate the antiquities of Oxford, was John Ross of Warwick, one of whose manuscripts is dated in 1468. He travelled

the term itself implied; but from various causes every vestige of a wall has in many places vanished. Where the walls stood in the way of public buildings, and local improvements, there was a plausible pretext for removing them; but wanton destruction is in all cases unpardonable. In process of time many of the trenches, which conveyed the waters of the Thames and the Charwell on the north and south sides of the city as well as the east and west, were filled up, or covered over; and houses were built upon the site of them. For some account of the present remains of the walls, see Memorials of St. Peter's Parish, p. 15; New College, p. 30; St. Michael's Parish, p. 9; St. Ebbe's Parish, p. 14; also the Memorials of Oxford Castle.

[c] This is pronounced by Leland and Stukeley to be the most ancient quarter of the city.

over the greater part of the kingdom to acquire information, and had the sanction of royal authority to examine all the muniments of England and Wales; and, though he exercised very little judgment in selection, he sometimes transcribed from documents which in all probability no longer exist. He has been followed by Twyne and others; who, in the celebrated controversy respecting the relative antiquity of Oxford and Cambridge, have traced the existence of the former to about 1000 years before the Christian æra: in support of which they cite many authorities. But, not to go so far back, there is no doubt of the comparative importance of the place from the earliest period. Appian, in his Catalogue of British Cities, among those of eminence mentions Canterbury, Oxford, and London. Cyprian includes it in his Index of ancient British Cities. In the eighth, ninth, and tenth centuries, its history becomes matter of ordinary record. The foundation of St. Frideswide's priory was in the early part of the first of these[d]; and in the following centuries we find Saxon money coined here from a royal mint [e], and other proofs of municipal importance. In the year 912, on the death of Æthered the last earl of Mercia, we are told by the Saxon annalist, that king Edward the elder 'took to London and to Oxford and to all the lands that thereunto belonged [f].' His son died in Oxford, and he himself at no great distance

[d] See our Memorials of Christ Church.

[e] See account of Oxford mint in Memorials of New Inn Hall.

[f] From this period, rather than from the unsettled and nominal monarchy of Egbert, the Saxons and the Angles became one nation; but the Angles being the most numerous gave their name to England, and the language spoken by the descendants of both has been called English; whence the Saxon has been considered as an obsolete and unknown tongue, and scarcely recognised by the English themselves, though it is the principal element of their daily conversation.

from it, in the year 925. The Danes, early in the next century, having failed in their attempts to reduce London, proceeded directly through the Chiltern district to this city. In the year 1013 the CORPORATION[f] of Oxford is mentioned in the same page with that of London. In 1015 an Anglo-Saxon parliament, or witenagemote, was holden here; and within three years the Danes and English were reconciled here, and agreed mutually to abide by king Edgar's laws. Here also the same witenagemote, or great council of the nation, met again on the death of Canute the Great, and chose Harold I. to be king; who died here five years after. The resistance which William the Norman experienced will account for the absence of his patronage of the place; but his son Henry I. is well known to have been much here and at his park at Woodstock. He demised to the corporation the fee-farm of the city for the consideration of 63*l.* 5*d.* per annum; which continued till the reign of George III. when it was redeemed for ever by the payment of a stipulated sum to the king's exchequer. Richard I. was born in the royal palace of Beaumont; of which some traces remained till the present street of that name was built[g].

In the year 1137, king Stephen held his first 'gathering' at Oxford on his return from Normandy, after taking possession of his foreign and domestic treasures; and how much this city was involved in the long and

[f] 'Seo Burhpapu' is the expression used in both instances, with a singular verb; which with the prepositive article of the feminine gender is equivalent to the word 'corporation' or 'township.' The burgesses, or inhabitants, are Burhpape, Burhpapaf, or Burhpapan, in the plural number; a distinction overlooked by Lye, Manning, and others. The Cotton MS., which is Norman Saxon, joins Oxford and Winchester thus: 'Ba þa Burh abuzan ȝ ȝirloban: both those boroughs surrendered, and gave hostages.'

[g] See wood-engraving in the Memorials of Magdalene Parish.

severe contests between his party and that of the empress Matilda, is sufficiently known to all. King Henry II. was no sooner crowned and consecrated in London than he commenced a royal progress from Oxford to Peterborough, Ramsey, Thorney, &c.; and this is the last event recorded in the Saxon Chronicle, which ends in the year 1154. But a singularly curious document in the same language, lately discovered in the archives of the city by Mr. Joy, throws some light on the transactions which took place here in the memorable contest between king Henry III. and his rebellious barons. It will be remembered, that a meeting was agreed to be holden in Oxford; and that the twelve persons chosen on either side should there settle the affairs of the realm. The king therefore issued a public writ or proclamation, addressed to his loyal subjects in every county, commanding them to abide by the decisions of this newly appointed council of the nation. These decisions were called afterwards the 'Provisions of Oxford.' Such a document in the vernacular tongue, on such an occasion, must be considered, independently of its historical and local interest, as a great literary curiosity. We have therefore given it entire, with a modern version annexed.

Henri þur Godes fultume king on Engleneloande
abbede on Oxeneforde ſchen. þeo buen ſelbe alle þer
loandes folk on bretuneriche habben don and ſchulen
don ſmen. þeo ſtedefeſt and leſtinde alle þinge þurren
to healden and to Werien þo ſeneſſes þer beon makede

FAC-SIMILE OF PART OF THE SAXON MANUSCRIPT.

Þenri þurh Godes fultume kinȝ on Enȝlene loande. Lhoauerð on Yrloande. Duk on Normandi'. on Aquitain'. and eorl on Aniow. send ȝretinge to alle his holde ilerde and ileawede on Oxeneforðeschir. þet witen ȝe wel alle þet we willen and unnen þet þet vre redesmen alle oþer þe moare del of heom þet beon ichosen þurȝ us and þurȝ þet loandesfolk on vre kuneriche habben idon and schullen don in þe worþnesse of ȝod and on vre treowþe. for þe freme of þe loand. þurȝ þe besiȝte of þan toforenseide redesmen beo stedefest and lestinde in alle þinge abuten ende. And we hoaten alle vre treowe on þe treowþe þet heo vs oȝen. þet heo stedefestelliche healden and swerien to healden and to werien þo setnesses þet beon makede and beon to maken þurȝ þan toforenseide redesmen oþer þurȝ þe moare del of heom alswo alse hit is toforen iseide. And þet æhc oþer helpe þet for to don bi þat ilche oaþ aȝenes alle men rigt for to don and to fonȝen. And noane ne nime of loand ne of eȝte. Wherþurȝ þis besiȝte muȝte beon let oþer iwerseð on onie wise. And ȝif oni oþer onie cumen her onȝenes we willen and hoaten þet alle vre treowþe heom healden deadliche fean. And for þet we willen þet þis beo stedfest and lestinde. we senden ȝew þis writ open seneð wiþ vre seel. to healden amoanges ȝew in hord. Witnesse vs seluen æt Lunden'þene eȝtetenþe daȳ on þe Monþe of Octobr' In þe two and fowertiȝþe ȝear of vre cruniȝe. ✠. Þis wes don ætforen vre isworen redesmen Boneface Archebischop on Kanterbur'. Walt' of Cantelow'. Bischop on Wirechest'. Sim. of Muntford eorl on Leþchestr'. Ric' of Clar' eorl on Glouchestr' and on Þurtford. Roȝ' Biȝod eorl on Northfolk and Mareschal on Enȝleneloand. Perres of Sauueȳe. Will' of Fort' eorl on Aubemarl'. Joh' of Pless' eorl on Warewik. Joh' Geffreessune. Perres of Muntfort. Ric' of Greȳ. Roȝ' of Mortem.' James of Albithel'. and ætforen oþre mōȝe.

'Henry, through God's grace king of England, lord of Ireland, duke of Normandy, of Aquitaine, and earl of Anjou, sends greeting to all his hold, learned and lewd, (*Clergy and laity,*) in Oxfordshire: That wit ye well, all that we will and declare, that what our REDESMEN (*Councillors*) all, or the more part of them, that be chosen through us and through the landsfolk in our kingdom, have done and shall do in the worthiness of God and on our truth, for the frame of the land, through the provision of the aforesaid redesmen, be steadfast and lasting in all things without end. And we call upon all our true men, on the truth that they owe us, that they steadfastly hold, and swear to hold and to maintain, the settlements that be made, and be to make, through the aforesaid redesmen, or through the more part of them, as is aforesaid. And that they each

other help, that for to do by that same oath against all men, right for to do and to secure. And that none take ought of land or possessions, whereby this provision may be let or made worse in any wise. And if any person or persons come against it, we will and command that all our true men hold them to be deadly foes. And for that we will that this be steadfast and lasting, we send you this writ open, (*Literas patentes*. Lat.) signed with our seal, to hold amongst you in hoard. Witness ourselves at London the eighteenth day of the month of October in the two and fortieth year of our crowning ✠. This was done before our sworn redesmen, Boniface, archbishop of Canterbury; Walter of Cantelup, bishop of Worcester; Simon of Montfort, earl of Leicester; Richard of Clare, earl of Gloucester and Hertford; Roger Bigod, earl of Norfolk, and marshal of England; Perres of Savoy; William of Fortz, (or de Fortibus), earl of Albemarle; John of Plessy, earl of Warwick; John Jefferson (or Fitz-Geoffrey); Perres of Montfort; Richard of Grey; Roger Mortimer; James of Aldtheley (*Audley*); and before many others.'

Walter de Merton was about this time acting as chancellor of England; and there can be no doubt that his wisdom and prudence, during this and the following reign, contributed not a little to that admirable settlement of our laws and constitution, which procured for Edward I. the title of the British Justinian. The impulse which he gave to the academical machinery of this place, by the foundation of his college, and its important effects on the national system of education in general, are matters which belong rather to the province of the biographer, and are therefore only noticed briefly in this work[i]. Certain it is, that Oxford had at this period acquired a celebrity equalled only by that of Paris, as an UNIVERSITY; a term borrowed from the Roman law, and not so barbarous as some have imagined[k]. This

[i] See our account of Merton College. Something supplementary may perhaps be expected from the author of the excellent article on Walter de Merton in the 'Pietas Oxoniensis.'

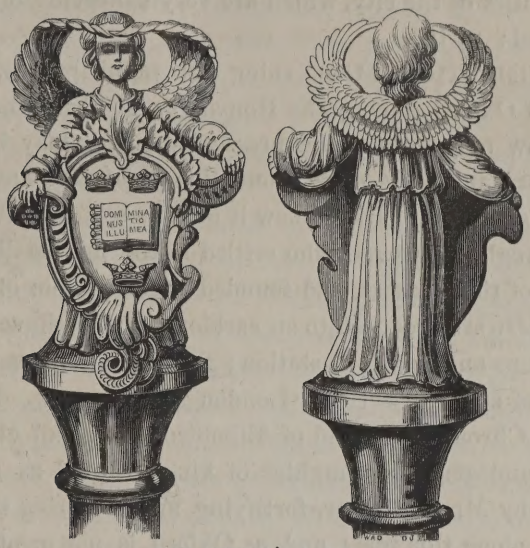
[k] The word 'universitas' was in common use, in its various senses, from the time of Cicero to the decline of the empire. Matthew

celebrity was increased by the erection of COLLEGES; the liberal endowments of which enabled the students to prosecute their researches in every department of science and literature in that manly spirit of independence, which led to the most happy and important results. It must be acknowledged, however, that the influx of persons from all parts of the globe, combined with an imperfect system of police, occasioned serious tumults during the 13th and 14th centuries; the details of which are given at full length in Wood's Annals. Hence arose the necessity of strengthening and extending the authority of the chancellor of the university, in order to preserve the general discipline of the place. Charters upon charters were granted for this purpose, both to the university and to the city; and several solemn compositions are extant, by which individuals bound themselves under severe penalties to maintain the public peace. Some of these are still extant in the university archives, with the seals appendant. To add dignity to the office, whenever and wherever the chancellor or his commissary appeared in the execution and performance of his various duties, he was preceded from the earliest period by bedels[1], who

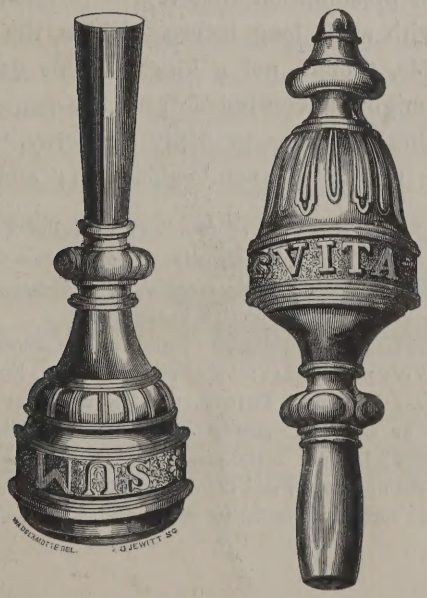
Paris styles Oxford an University. There is no reason therefore for the modern substitution of 'academia;' which is less comprehensive and appropriate, as applied to a public body incorporated by law. It is no valid objection, that the same expression is applied to other communities; as in the 13th century, 'universitas CIVIUM Oxoniensium,' &c. occurs in public instruments; for the citizens of Oxford were a chartered body from the beginning, as well as the chancellor, masters, and scholars of the university, properly so called. For the minute and legal distinctions between the terms, Academy, University, Hall, College, Society, Fraternity, &c. see Ayliffe's introductory remarks in the beginning of his first and second volume: which are well worthy of the attention of modern lawyers and legislators.

[1] These are six in number; three esquire bedels, and three yeomen.

carried before them those staves, maces, or symbols of authority, which have been renewed from time to time;



THE VIRGER'S MACE.



STAFF OF DIVINITY BEDELS.

and of which, as at present used, we have engraved some specimens[m]. Representations of those belonging to the authorities of the city, which are very handsome, are also annexed; p. 16.

JURISDICTION.—Concerning the municipal jurisdiction of Oxford during the Roman or British times, we can now only form conjectures. Whatever may be the supposed antiquity of its foundation, the Saxon invaders of the southern districts knew it only as a 'ford of Oxen.' The Angles, however, who settled in the middle district, north of the Thames, and founded the kingdom of Mercia, afterwards reduced to an earldom, seem to have occupied it as an important station; forming an intermediate point of strength between London and Chester. In the Saxon Chronicle we read of Æthelfleda, 'Lady of Mercia,' the 'undegenerate daughter of king Alfred,' as she is called by Mr. Whitaker, fortifying and repairing several towns along this line; and, as Oxford is not mentioned, there is a fair presumption that it was fortified and encompassed with walls long before. Didan, the father of St. Frideswide, though not a king, nor his daughter a princess, as might be concluded from the pages of William of Malmsbury, was probably a viceroy, 'subregulus,' or earl; that is, a Saxon 'ealdorman;' and the title

[m] There is also another officer of a similar kind, called a virger, who carries, like the bedels, a handsome silver staff or mace before him. The latter officer, from the Latin *virgifer*, is of inferior antiquity, and is the subject of a distinct section in the Statutes.

The following Latin inscriptions are legible on the maces: *Divinity,* EGO SUM VIA VITA ET VERITAS:—*Medicine and Arts,* EGO SUM VIA VITA ET VERITAS: COLUMNA PHILOSOPHIÆ, SCIENTIÆ ET MORES:—*Law,* ÆQUUM ET BONUM COLUMNÆ JUSTITIÆ. The letters on the base are inverted; because in the presence of the king, whenever his majesty visits the university, and then only, the broad or obtuse ends of the maces are carried upwards, for difference. Vid. Corp. Stat.

of 'provost,' or 'præpositus,' occurs in the year 895 in a charter of king Alfred. The 'bailiffs' are in ancient deeds generally called 'præpositi;' and as all the Saxon customs of the citizens, with their privileges, including their common pasturage of Port-meadow, are minutely recorded and acknowledged in the Domesday Survey, there is no reason to suppose, that the jurisdiction was altered after the conquest. It is therefore antecedent to the Norman period. Hence the frequent mention of a Portmote, a Gildhall, and a Hustingcourt; all terms previously unknown to the Normans, though adopted by them [n]. The jurisdiction is still substantially the same.

CHARTERS.—In a charter of king Henry II. reference is made to a former one granted by Henry I., in which a gild of merchants, 'gilda mercatoria,' is recognised here. This charter he confirms in such a manner, that no person, not a member of that gild, should exercise his trade either in the city or in the suburbs. In the same and other subsequent charters such customs are confirmed to the citizens of Oxford as are clearly of Anglo-Saxon origin; such as, that they should be way-free and toll-free, on land and on eyte, in leasow and meadow, 'by land and by strand,' with 'sac, soc, toll, team, and infangentheof.' To which it is added, that they should serve as butlers with the citizens of London at the royal table on festive occasions; and in short, whatever customs, privileges, laws, liberties, or tenures, belonged to the citizens of London, the same should be

[n] The word 'mayor,' which occurs very soon after the Norman conquest, was probably substituted for that of 'portreve.' The seal of the mayoralty is appended to a deed executed in 1180, 26 Hen. ij. Vid. Peshall, p. 340.

enjoyed in common with them by the citizens of Oxford. And it is evident, from the very words of this charter, that these grants are only confirmatory of privileges long enjoyed; for it is stated as a matter of fact, that these distinguished honours are conferred in common on the citizens of Oxford and London, BECAUSE THEY ARE OF ONE AND THE SAME CUSTOM, AND LAW, AND LIBERTY [o].

To secure these distinguished honours and privileges, charters are extant of king John, Henry III, Edward II, and Edward III, with little variation; but in the 29th year of the latter monarch, May 19, 1355, in consequence of a great conflict between the townsmen and scholars, and the prevalence of inveterate feuds between the university and city, the mayor and burgesses formally resigned into the king's hands all their ancient privileges and immunities; which were restored soon after, July 26, in the same year, with the following exceptions in favour of the university: The assize of bread, wine, and ale, with the correction and punishment by fine or otherwise of those who violate it: the supervision and assay of weights and measures; with the power of taking cognisance of all forestallers and regrators, and vendors of unwholesome provisions: the punishment of scholars or laymen carrying arms against the statutes of the university, with the forfeiture of the arms: the conservation and cleansing of the streets and carriageways of the town; to effect which the chancellor or his vicegerent may compel the townsmen to remove all accumulation of filth and rubbish: the assessment and taxation of certain servants of scholars; such as writers, limners, &c.

[o] See the abstract of University and City Charters, p. 17.

With the above-mentioned exceptions, there was now a complete restitution of the ancient liberties of the city enjoyed under former sovereigns; which were confirmed by an abundance of subsequent charters as a matter of acknowledged justice: viz. 1 Richard II, 2 Henry IV, 15 Henry VI, 2 Edward IV, 1 Richard III, 5 Henry VII, and 1 Henry VIII. But in 1532 the policy or tyranny of Henry VIII, in the establishment of his supremacy, taking occasion from the feuds still existing between the university and city, suggested the surrender of all former charters granted either to the city or to the university; that new charters might be bestowed on both bodies by his royal clemency: which was accordingly done. The university, however, obtained a more ample charter in 1543. The privileges of the city were again confirmed 5th Ed. VI. and 9th Eliz. But the charter, by which it was governed before the late municipal act of parliament, was that of 3 James I. 1605; a charter, granted at the request and supplication of the citizens themselves, with an augmentation and addition of certain liberties, privileges, immunities, and franchises; without prejudice to those of the university, or of any college, hall, or other academical society [p].

All the ancient charters recognise the concurrent authority of the mayor and chancellor of the university in all matters of police, &c.; but the whole of the watch and ward, in regard to the superintendence and punishment of its own members, belongs to the university. This

[p] This is printed at length, with marginal references, in Peshall's History of Oxford; but with his usual inaccuracy: for example, 'Sacramentum capiet,' &c. 'He shall take an *oath*,' he translates in the margin—'Must take the *sacrament*.'

being disputed in the case of Smith and Paynter, the two city bailiffs, in 1609, chief-justice Flemming, with the concurrence of Williams and Croke, the other judges present, pronounced judgment in favour of the university according to a precedent cited in 9 Hen. VI; Croke and Williams affirming, that the scholars enjoyed this privilege when they were students, and for 300 years before, without any opposition; and therefore they rebuked Paynter for his contumacy[q]. It is now agreed and understood, for the sake of harmony, that the burden and responsibility of the general police should be divided between the two bodies. Accordingly, at present, the city have their separate jurisdiction, act under a separate commission of the peace, and by the late municipal regulations are governed, as before, by their own magistrates and subordinate officers, who exercise free control over the citizens; whilst the general superintendence of the streets and suburbs, and of all the avenues leading into them, is committed during the night to an effective body of policemen appointed by the university, and acting under the direction of the vice-chancellor and proctors. A body of policemen has been also recently established by the corporation of the city to act during the day. In short, the line of demarkation is clearly and intelligibly defined; each party governs its own subjects, and knows its proper limits of authority.

The population of Oxford at the time of the Domesday Survey, the earliest statistical account, was about 3870; allowing five persons only to each family; the number of houses being 774[r]. In the reign of Henry III. the

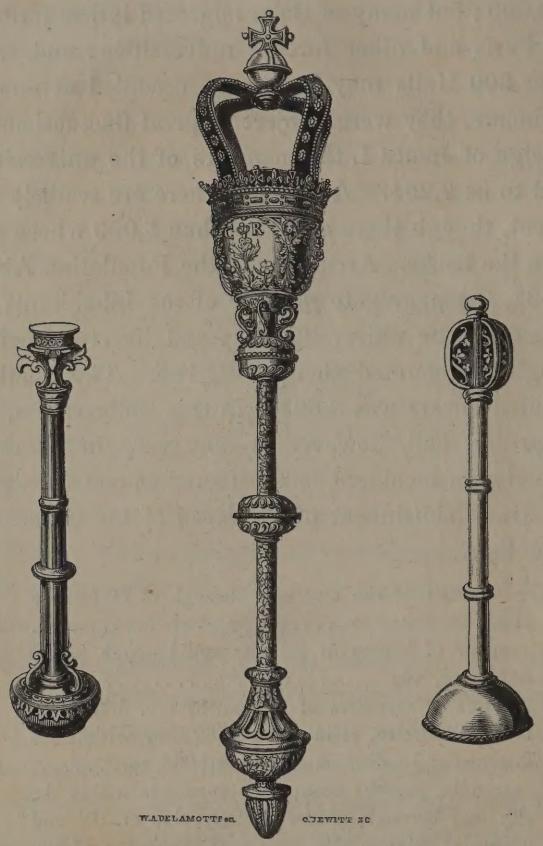
[q] Vide Ayliffe, I. 204, from Wood's Annals.

[r] The principal street, called the High street, mentioned in Latin

number of students in the university varied from 3,000 to 30,000; but many of them migrated hither for a time from Paris and other foreign universities: and, though 200 or 300 Halls may have been occupied at one time by scholars, they were subject to great fluctuations. In the reign of James I. the members of the university are stated to be 2,254. At present there are scarcely 2,000 resident, though there are more than 5,000 whose names are on the books. According to the Population Abstract of 1831, the aggregate number of the inhabitants, comprehending the university, city, and liberties thereunto belonging, amounted then to 22,186. The number of inhabited houses was 3,691. In this enumeration, every college and hall, however it may vary in its relative proportion of members, is considered as one family; the domestic establishment of the Head of the House forming another.

The population of the city and borough of Oxford, in 1833, amounted to	20,411.
The number of houses in the city and borough in the same year, was	3,936.
The electors of members of parliament are, first, freemen of the city, residing in Oxford, or within the distance of 7 miles, amounting in 1836, to.....	1,236:
And, secondly, persons occupying tenements within the city and borough, of the annual value of 10*l.* and upwards; who in the same year, exclusive of the freemen, amounted to	1,239.
The electors of municipal officers are, burgesses occupying premises and paying rates within the city and borough, who in 1836 amounted to	1,663.

documents of the 13th century as 'altus vicus,' is about 2038 feet long, and 85 broad. Many of the streets were in existence previous to all record. An act for paving and lighting them, for a new market, and the general improvement of the city, was obtained in 1771. This act was renewed, with some additional clauses, in 1836.



CITY STAVES AND MACE [s].

[s] The mace in the centre, which is carried before the mayor, is about five feet in height, and has the following inscription: 'This mace was made in the mayoralty of John Lamb, in the reign of Charles II.' John Lamb was mayor in 1668; so that the date is clearly ascertained. The present university maces, from the character of their workmanship, appear to be nearly of the same period. There is an older one still preserved; but it is not in use.

VIEW OF OXFORD, FROM HEADINGTON ROAD.

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UNIVERSITY SEAL, C. A. D. 1200.

ABSTRACT OF CHARTERS GRANTED TO THE UNIVERSITY.

The following is the substance of various privileges and immunities of the 29th of Edw. III. granted immediately after the affray, called 'the Great Conflict,' on the day of St. Scholastica.

'In regard, that by occasion of the chancellor and mayor's joint keeping of the assize of bread, and ale or beer, and the townsmen keeping their advantage, things could not be well managed, we, by our royal charter grant for ourselves and heirs, that the chancellor of the university, and his successors, and their deputies, for ever have (*soli et in solidum*) the sole keeping of the assize of bread and wine, and ale or beer, and the fines or amerciaments of offenders, paying to him and his heirs 100*s*. yearly, 50 at Michaelmas, the other at the Passover.—— (This payment was afterwards remitted.)

The chancellor shall have (*solus et in solidum*) the keeping of the assize,

and assay of weights and measures in the town of Oxford, and the suburbs thereof, and the punishment of offenders concerning the same, so as to burn or destroy false measures; but the forfeitures of the same shall be reserved to the mayor and bailiffs, towards the fee-farm rent of the town [a].——Likewise the chancellor, and his successors, shall have the sole power to inquire into, take cognisance of, and punish forestallers, regrators, and venders of unwholesome, putrid, vitious victuals, or other incompetent things, provided that the forfeitures and amerciaments be paid to the hospital of St. John, without East-gate [b], as has been accustomed.

'The mayor, bailiffs, and aldermen, and others of the said town, shall not interfere or intermeddle with the premisses; and we will and command, that in all and every of these they carry themselves attendant and obedient to the chancellor.

'*Item*, For the terror of the bad, the security and comfort of the good, we ordain, for us and our heirs, that the chancellor, for the time being, shall duly punish the scholars and laymen bearing arms there, and being offenders against the statutes of the university; by imprisonment or otherwise, and take the arms of such as are obstinate, and refuse chastisement or admonition, expel them from the university, and proceed against them with ecclesiastical censures, as hath been always usual in such cases.

'*Item*, Since to the university a multitude of nobles, gentry, strangers, and others, continually flock, and cleanliness would very well become it; we will, that the said town, and its suburbs, be kept clean from filth and dirt; wood, trunks of trees, and other things removed, for a free passage; and that the pavements of the streets be repaired and preserved in good order, and that the chancellor may compel the burgesses and others on whom it may be incumbent, who are repugnant to this order, by ecclesiastical censure, without applying the mulct to his own use; and the prohibition of us and our heirs shall have no power or effect, if it acts against this proceeding.

'*Item*, When the officers of the university, or their servants, are to be rated or taxed to pay any part or sum [c] out of their goods in the town of Oxford, that the chancellor or his deputy, not the mayor nor

[a] This feefarm rent, as we have already stated, has been redeemed.

[b] In quod. fasc. Brev. in Civit. Oxon. Wood 176. This hospital, of which there are still some remains, stood where Magdalene college was afterwards erected. See our Memorials of that foundation.

[c] This was a tax imposed upon the scholars by the chancellor only, and prevailed in this king's and Henry IIId's reign. Wood, fol. 179.

townsmen, shall for ever rate or tax the said officers and servants of scholars as those of their families, writers of manuscripts, printers, limners, parchment-makers, &c. as reasonably as other persons of the town, according to the quantity of their goods liable to be taxed; and the sums to be taxed shall be levied by their officers, to be delivered by indenture to the mayor and bailiffs of the town; and if the townsmen shall complain of such rates as unduly made by the chancellor, that then inquiry be made by certain officers of the king, that the defect being found, it may be reformed. And this we will and grant, that the chancellor shall plenarily and fully enjoy, according to the order aforesaid.

'*Item*, Willing to provide for the indemnity of the scholars, who, in the perturbation have been robbed of their goods, and possibly for fear of proceeding irregularly dare not bring an action for the recovery of such goods, we grant of our special grace, for us and our heirs, to the masters, scholars, &c. of the university, who have thus lost their effects, that they, or the chancellor and proctor in their own name, and without any molestation of us, our heirs, or ministers, may lawfully retake such goods from them into whose hands they are come, without the form of a capital prosecution of such felons.

'*Item*, For the greater security and quiet of the students in the university, we ordain, *pro perpetuo*, and grant for us and our heirs, that every sheriff of Oxon', at receiving his commission, shall take an oath to protect, according to his power, the masters and scholars from injuries, and keep the peace as far as in him lies; and that the underheriff, and other officers in the said county, presently after their taking upon them their offices, in the presence of some person deputed by the university, shall take the like oath, to which we will, the sheriff shall compel them. But for affixing punishments for the more secure conservation of the peace of the university, and for other things, which, agreeably to the above submissions, in order for a perpetual remembrance of the premises, we propose, by God's grace, to proceed upon—the various and arduous task of the government hindering us at present, we will refer this to another time, for a special ordination.

'*Witness*, { *John Archbishop of York, Primate of England, our Chancellor.*
William, Bishop of Winton, our Treasurer, &c.

'*Dat. per manum nostram apud Turrim London*, XXVII *Jun. regni nostri Angl.* 29, *Fran.* 16.'

In the preamble to this extensive charter of privileges conferred to the university and taken from the city, he premises, 'That amongst

other things by which the condition of kings and kingdoms is advanced, and the profit and quiet of subjects are preserved, the chiefest seems to be the mutual conjunction of power and strength with wisdom, which is especially derived from learning; for military power, unless it be regulated by wisdom, doth easily miscarry, as a ship without a rudder, exposed to storms, suddenly perishes; and it is commonly observed, that where the studies of liberal sciences have most prevailed, there the temporal warfare of the kingdom hath likewise flourished: and whereas the university of Oxford, as the fountain and chief stream of those studies, hath in a most eminent manner dispersed the dew of learned knowledge throughout the kingdom of England; and as a fruitful vine hath sent forth many useful branches into the Lord's vineyard, that is, most learned men, by whose abilities both the church and kingdom is many ways adorned and strengthened, he in consideration thereof ordains,' &c.

In the year 1357 there was a difference between sir R. D'Amory, knt. who held the hundred of North-gate, in the suburbs of Oxford, in fee-farm from the king, and the chancellor, masters, and scholars of the university, concerning jurisdiction herein. Sir Richard claiming the assize of bread, wine, and beer, and the conusance of causes arising within the precincts of that hundred; and the chancellor, &c. claiming the same jurisdiction and privilege in that hundred which they enjoyed in the town of Oxford, and the suburbs thereof. An agreement was made before the king and his council, by the mediation of John, archbishop of Canterbury, and chancellor of England, and W. Wykeham, bishop of Winton, lord treasurer, wherein it was yielded by sir R. D'Amory, for himself and his heirs, that the chancellor, &c. should have the entire assize and assay of bread, wine, and beer, and the profits incident thereunto within that hundred, and the decision of all causes of contracts and pleas touching things moveable, and of injuries and trespasses where one of the parties shall be a scholar or a privileged person, excepting pleas relating to murder, maim, or to freehold; and the like of disturbers of the peace, and offenders against the statutes and liberties of the university; and of all forestallers, regrators, &c. and in effect of all other matters to which the privileges of the university did then extend; and the said sir R. D'Amory did then promise for himself and his heirs, that they should not intermeddle in any of these things, saving to himself and his heirs all other rights belonging to that hundred, which agreement was accepted and confirmed by the king, for himself, his heirs, and successors. —*In cuj. &c. Test. Meipso apud Westm.* XVI *Julii, an. regn. Angl.* 30, *Franciæ* 17.

The following agreement or composition between the university and city about this time, is extant in the French of that period [d].

R. omnib. &c.——*Inspeximus alteram partem cujusd. indenturæ inter Cancellar. et Univ. Oxon. et Major. et Communit. Oxon. factæ et communi sigillo dictæ villæ signatæ in hæc verba:* ' Ceste endenture fait a Oxenford le quatorzisme jour de Maii, l'an du regne le roi Edward tierz, aprez la conquest d'Engleterre trentisme primer et de France dis et septisme, entre le chaunceller et la universitee d' Oxenford d' une part, et le Maire et communaltee de mesme la ville d' altre part, tesmoigne que accorde est entre les parties avantdites, que la dite communaltee d'Oxenford tendra perpetuelmeux une misse d' anniversarie le jour de Seinte Scolasee la virgine, *en la Eglise de Nostre Dame*, pur les almes des clercs, et altres occis en la confluct que nagdairs estroix entre les clercs et lais de la dite communaltee, a la quele misse d'anniversarie serront en propres persones, et offront en noun de la dite communaltee d'Oxenford, le maire que pur le temps serra, les bailliffs, les aldermans, et tout iceaux que furunt jurez a dite univ. mesme l' an de la dite ville, et de les suburbes auxibien del suburbe dehors la port de Northt. come de altres suburbes, si noun ascun deaux eient congie del chaunceller que per le temps sera, on de son commissar. de soi absentir per resonable cause et accept. a dite chaunceller ou de son commissar. et en cas que ascuns ensi soi absentent, facent altres honestes de la dite ville ou suburbes venir en lour lieux, al acceptation del dit chaunceller ou de son commissar que pur le temps serra, ensi que seisaunt et deux de la dite communaltee, de queaux le dit chaunceller ou son commissar soi agree, soient presentz a la dite misse del comencement tanque au fyn, et offre chescun un dener si nul deaux neit congie del chaunceller ou de son commissar, d' offrer son dener et d'aler en tour ses busoignes necessaries adonque affaires. Et si nul de la dite communaltee juree a la universetee cel an soi absente devenir a la dite misse et d' offrer come avant est dit saunz resonable encheson et congie del dit chaunceller au son commissar. que pur le temps serra, et altre en son lieu accept a dit chaunceller au son commissare, ne soit a la dite misse et offre pur lui come avant est dit; soit il puny pur le chaunceller ou son commissar duement come le dit chaunceller ou son commissar lui plerra punyr. estre ceo le chaunceller et la univ. avantditz ne soi assentent mie que Johan. de Bereford, Rob. de Lardyner, Matheu Kyng, Rob. le Goldsmith, et Johan. de Godestre soient contenuz ne compriz en ceste accorde. En tesmoignance des quel choses le seals de

[d] As this was an agreement between the parties concerned, it has been recently abolished; but the original document is worth preserving.

la universitee d'Oxenford d'une part, et de la communaltee de mesme la ville d'altre part, a ceste endenture entrechaungeablement sont mys, Don a Oxenford jour et an. avant ditz.

In the year 1407 were issued the following letters patent of king Henry IV: 'Whereas the chancellor and scholars of the university of Oxford enjoying and using many franchises of his own and his predecessors' grants, have been from time to time, indicted of divers treasons, felonies, and mayhems, and thereupon arrested, imprisoned, and condemned more than in former times had been accustomed; out of his special grace and favour, he grants to the said chancellor, his commissary, deputy, every master, scholar, or other officer or servant, or any other person under the privilege of the said university, that shall be indicted or prosecuted before any justices whatsoever, &c. sheriff, mayor, and bailiffs of Oxon', by the townsmen, or any other of the four hundreds adjoining, of any treasons, felonies, or mayhems, within the counties of Oxon', or Berks, committed or to be committed, and shall thereupon be arrested or imprisoned, if the chancellor, or his commissary, will challenge or claim him, he in whose custody he is imprisoned, shall forthwith, under the penalty of 200*l.* deliver his body to the steward of the chancellor, or his deputy or vice-chancellor, and to be allowed by the king's chancellor under the broad seal, if it shall be held fit and sufficient, together with the indictment, and other proceedings, and that the person indicted, arrested, or imprisoned, shall stand to the trial of the chancellor, &c. either at the king's suit, or the suit of any other person, and that the chancellor shall proceed against him by writs directed to the sheriff to return eighteen of the town to appear before him at Guild-hall, at a certain time, and shall likewise direct writs to the bedels of the university to summon eighteen privileged men to the same place and time, and a jury of a moiety of each sort being impannelled, shall proceed according to the laws and customs of the realm, and the liberties and customs of the university.—*His testib. ven. patrib. T. A. B. Cant. P. Linc. &c.—Dat. per manum nostram apud Westm.* 11 *die Jun. anno regni nostri* 8.

The charters granted at different times to the university were all ratified and confirmed in parliament by the following important act 13 Eliz. 1571, for incorporation of the two universities[e].

'*Exhibita est regie Majestati in Parliamento Billa quedam formam Actus in se continens.*'

'FOR the greate love and favour that the queenes most excellent

[e] We reprint this from the copy annexed to the charters collected by judge Blackstone, and printed at the Clarendon press in 1770.

majestie beareth towards her highnes universities of Oxforde and Cambridge, and for the greate zeale and care that the lords and commons of this present parliament have for the maintenaunce of good and godlie literature, and the vertuous education of youth within either of the same universities, And to the intent that the auncient privileges, liberties and franchesies of either of the said universities heretofore granted ratified and confirmed by the queenes highnes and her most noble progenitors maie be had in great estimation, and be of great force and strength for the better encrease of learning, and the further suppressing of vice. **Be it** therefore enacted by the authoritie of this present parliament, that the right honourable Robert earle of Leicester now chancellor of the said universitie of Oxforde and his successors for ever and the maisters and scholers of the same universitie of Oxforde for the tyme being shall be incorporate and have a perpetual succession in facte, deede, and name, by the name of the chancellor, maisters, and scholers of the universitie of Oxforde, And that the same chancellor, maisters and scholars of the same universitie of Oxforde for the tyme being from henceforth by the name of chancellor, maisters and scholers of the universitie of Oxforde, and by none other name or names shall be called and named for evermore. **And that** they shall have a common seale to serve for their necessarie causes towching and concerning the said chancellor, maisters, and scholers of the saide universitie of Oxforde and their successors. **And further** that as well the chancellor, maisters and scholers of the said universitie of Oxforde and their successors by the name of chancellor maisters and scholers of the universitie of Oxforde, as the chancellor, maisters and scholers of the saide universitie of Cambridge, and their successors, by the name of chancellor maisters and scholers of the universitie of Cambridge, may severallie ympleade and be ympleaded, and sewe and be sewed for all manner of causes, quarrells, actions realle personalle and mixte of whatsoever kinde, qualitie or nature theie be. **And** shall and maie chalenge and demaunde all manner of liberties and franchesies, and also answer and defende themselves under and by the name aforesaid in the same causes quarrells and actions for everie thing and things whatsoever for the proffit and righte of either of the foresaide universities to be done before any manner of judge either spirituall or temporall in any courtes and places within the queenes highnes dominions whatsoever theie be. **And be it** further enacted by the auctoritie aforesaide that the lettres patents of the queenes highnes most noble father king Henry the eighte made and graunted to the chancellor and scholers of the saide universitie of Oxforde bearing date the first daie of Aprill in the xiiiith yeare of his raigne, **And** the lettres patents of the queenes majestie

that nowe is, made and granted unto the chancellor maisters and scholers of the universitie of Cambridge bearing date the six and twentith daie of Aprill in the third yere of her hignes most gracious raigne, And also all other lettres patents by anie of the progenitors or predecessors of our saide soveraigne ladie made to either of the saide corporated bodies severally or to anie of their predecessors of either of the saide universities, by whatsoever name or names the said chancellor maisters and scholers of either of the said universities in any of the said lettres patents have bin heeretofore named, shall from henceforth bee good, effectuall, and availeable in the lawe, to all intents, constructions, and purposes to the foresaide nowe chancellor, maisters and scolers of either of the saide universities and to their successors for evermore, after and according to the forme, wordes, sentences, and true meaning of everie of the same lettres patents, as amplie, fullie and largelie as yf the same lettres patents were recited verbatim in this present acte of parliament, any thing to the contrarie in any wise notwithstanding. And furthermore be it enacted by the authoritie aforesaid that the chancellor, maisters and scholers of either of the saide universities severallie and their successors for ever by the same name of chancellor, maisters and scholers of either of the saide universities of Oxforde and Cambridge, shall and maie severallie have, holde, possesse, enjoye, and use, to them and to their successors for evermore, all manner of mannors, lordshipps, rectories, parsonages, landes, tenements, rents, services, annuities, advowsons of churches, possessions, pensions, portions and hereditaments, And all manner of liberties, franchesies, immunyties, quietances and privileges, view of francke pledge, law daies, and other things whatsoever they be, the which either of the said corporated bodies of either of the said universities had, helde, occupied, or injoyed, or of right ought to have had, used, occupied and enjoyed at any tyme or tymes before the making of this acte of parliament according to the true intent and meaning as well of the said letters patents made by the said noble prince king Henry the Eighte made and granted to the chancellor and schollers of the universitie of Oxforde bearing date as is aforesaid, as of the letters patents of the queenes majestie made and granted unto the chancellor maisters and scholers of the universitie of Cambridge bearing date as aforesaid, And as according to the true intent and meaning of all other the foresaid letters patents whatsoever, any statute or other thing or things whatsoever heretofore made or done to the contrarie in any manner of wise notwithstanding. And be it further enacted by the authoritie aforesaid that all manner of instruments, indentures, obligations, writings obligatorie, and recognizances made or knowledged by any person or persons or bodie corporate, to

F. Mackenzie. J. Le Keux.

THE TOWN HALL.

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either of the said corporated bodies of either of the said universities by what name or names soever the said chancellor, maisters and scolers of either of the said universities have bin heretofore called in any of the said instruments, indentures, obligations, writings obligatorie or recognizances shall be from henceforth availeable, stand and continewe of good, perfect and full force and strength, to the nowe chancellor, maisters and schollers of either of the said universities and to their successors, to all intents, constructions and purposes, altho they or their predecessors or any of them in any of the said instruments, indentures, obligations, writings obligatorie or recognizances be named by anie name contrarie or diverse to the name of the nowe chancellor, maisters and scholers of either of the said universities. And be it also enacted by the authoritie aforesaid that as well the said letters patents of the queenes highnes said father king Henry the eighte bearing date as ys before expressed made and granted to the said corporated bodie of the saide universitie of Oxforde, as the letters patents of the queenes majestie aforesaide granted to the chancellor, maisters and scholers of the universitie of Cambridge bearing date as aforesaid, And all other letters patents by any of the progenitors or predecessors of her highnes, and all manner of liberties, franchesies, immunities, quietances and privileges, leetes, law daies and other things whatsoever therein expressed, geven or granted to the said chancellor, maisters and schollers of either of the saide universities, or to any of their predecessors of either of the said universities, by whatsoever name the said chancellor, maisters and schollers of either of the said universities in any of the said letters patents be named, be and by vertue of this present acte shall be from henceforth ratified, stablished and confirmed unto the said chancellor, maisters and scollers of either of the said universities and to their successors for ever, Any statute, lawe, usage, custome, construction or other thing to the contrarie in anie wise notwithstanding. Saving to all and everie person and persons and bodies politicke and corporate their heires and successors and the heires and successors of everie of them, other then to the queenes majestie her heires and successors, all such rights, titles, interests, entries, leases, conditions, charges and demaunds, which they and everie of them had, might or should have had of in or to anie the mannors, lordshipps, rectories, parsonages, lands, tenements, rents, services, annuyties, advowsons of churches, pentions, portions, hereditaments and all other things in the said letters patents or in any of them mentioned or comprised, by reason of any right title charge interest or condition to them or any of them or to the auncestors or predecessors of them or any of them devolute or growen before the severall dates of the same letters patents, or by reason of any gifte,

graunt, demise or other acte or actes at any tyme made or done between the said chancellor maisters and scollers of either of the said universities of Cambridge and Oxford or any of them and others, by what name or names soever the same were made or done in like manner and forme as they and everie of them had or might have had the same before the making of this acte, Any thing &c. Provided allwaies and be it enacted by the authoritie aforesaid that this acte or any thing therein contained shall not extend to the prejudice or hurte of the liberties and privileges of righte belonging to the mayors bailiffes and burgesses of the towne of Cambridge and citie of Oxford. But that they the said mayors bailifes and burgesses and everie of them, and their successors shall be and continew free in such sorte and degree, and enjoye such liberties freedomes and ymmunities as they or any of them lawfullie maie or might have done before the making of this present acte. Any thing contayned in this present acte to the contrarie notwithstanding.

Cui quidem bille perlecte et ad plenum intellecte per dictam Dominam Reginam ex auctoritate parliamenti sic responsum est LA ROIGNE LE VEULT septimo die Junii Anno regni decimo tertio. 1571.'

The following dates of parliaments or national councils holden in Oxford are taken chiefly from Ayliffe: viz. in 1002, 1018, 1036, 1088, 1136, 1160, 1166, 1177, 1185. At various times in the reigns of Ric. I. Joh. Hen. iij. 1222, 1227, 1230, 1233, 1241, 1247, 1250, 1257, 1258, 1261, 1264, 1271, 1290, 1330, 1382, 1383, 1395, 1625, 1644, 1665, 1680.

The law terms were also kept here on several occasions; as in 1247, 1388, 1393, 1644, 1665. In the two latter instances the reason is given by Ayliffe: that is, because the king's headquarters were here in 1644; and the plague was raging in London in 1665.

The total number of masters and scholars in 1209, was ...	3,000.
Increased in the reign of Hen. iii, A. D. 1231, to	30,000.
Reduced from various causes about A. D. 1263, to	15,000.
Reduced to about ¼ by the plague, A. D. 1350, viz.....	3,750.
On the return of the students after the plague, 1360,.....	6,000.
According to the census in the Long Vacation of 1612, ...	2,920.
Resident population of Colleges and Halls according to the returns of 1831, exclusive of those in lodgings [p]	1,634.
Total of members on the books Jan. 1837	5,229.

[p] See the note signed J. R. (John Rickman) appended to the Enumeration Abstract of 1831, ordered by the House of Commons to be printed 2 April 1833.

For the following analysis of the great charter of 1635, 11 Car. I. commonly called the Caroline charter, we are indebted to the industry of Judge Blackstone, who drew it up 28 Jan. 1758. It is preserved in the Tower of the Schools. N. E. P. CC. 28.—NB. The letter (*c*) denotes a confirmation, (*r*) a recital, and (*e*) an enlargement or explanation of the charter or instrument next immediately following.

The charter of Westminster, 3 Mar. 11 Car. I. *r. c. e.*
- Westminster, 2 Jan. 9 Eliz. *r. c.*
  - Westminster, 18 Oct. 2 and 3 Ph. and M. *r. c.*
    - Westminster, 7 Jun. 1 Ed. VI. *r. c.*
      - Westminster, 10 Oct. 2 Hen. VIII. *r. c.*
        - Westminster, 1 Mar. 2 Hen. VII. *r. c.*
          - Westminster, 3 Jul. 1 Ed. IV. *r. c.*
            - Westminster, 20 Jul. 2 Ric. II. (as recited afterwards.)
              - Westminster, 2 Jun. 7 Hen. VI. *r. c.*
                - Westminster, 7 Dec. 1 Hen. V. *r. c.*
                  - Westminster, 20 Nov. 1 Hen. IV. *r. c.*
                    - Westminster, 20 Jul. 2 Ric. II. *r. c.*
                      - Westminster, 20 Nov. 30 Ed. III. *r. c.*
                        - Waltham, 12 Apr. 10 Ed. III. *r. c. e.*
                          - Thunderley, 20 May, 8 Ed. II. *r. c.*
                            - Reding, 10 May, 28 Hen. III.
                            - Woodstock, 10 Feb. 40 Hen. III.
                            - Westminster, 6 Feb. 46 Hen. III. *r. c. e.*
                              - Woodstock, 18 Jun. 39 Hen. III.
                            - Westminster, 2 Feb. 49 Hen. III.
                            - Woodstock, 21 Jun. 52 Hen. III. *r. c.*
                              - Woodstock, 29 May, 32 Hen. III.
                              - ——— Enrolled 33 Hen. III.
                          - Westminster, 11 Mar. 8 Ed. II. *r. c.*
                            - Decision in parl. post pasch. 18 Ed. I.
                          - London ap. turr. 27 Jun. 29 Ed. III.
                        - Westminster, 16 Jul. 30 Ed. III. *r. c.*
                          - Sir R. Damory's Indenture West.
                          - Tuesday after 8 Jul. 30 Ed. III.
                        - Westminster, 10 Jan. 32 Ed. III.
                      - Westminster, 15 Jul. 14 Ric. II.
              - Westminster, 13 May, 2 Hen. IV.
              - Westminster, 2 Jun. 7 Hen. IV.
              - Westminster, 25 Feb. 37 Hen. VI.
  - Westminster, 1 Apr. 14 Hen. VIII.

CITY SEAL.

Abstract of Charters granted to the City of Oxford.

Charter of Henry II, dated from Canterbury:—

'Henry king of England, duke of Normandy, &c. to his archbishops, bishops, abbots, earls, &c. and to his faithful people of France, England, and Normandy, greeting. Know ye that I have granted and confirmed to my citizens of Oxford all their liberties and customs, and laws, and exemptions, which they had in the time of king Henry my grandfather; particularly their merchant-guild, with all their liberties and customs in lands and islands, pastures, and other appurtenances. So that any one who is not of that guild shall not make any merchandise in the city, or its suburb, unless so as was accustomed in the time of king Henry my grandfather. Moreover, I have granted and confirmed to them that they shall be exempt from toll, and passage, and all customs, through the whole of England and Normandy, by land and by water, and by the seashore, bilande, and bistrande. And they shall have all their other customs and liberties and laws which they possess, in common with my citizens

of London, and that at my feast they shall serve with them as my butlers, and shall carry on their merchandise in common with them, within London and without, and in all other places. And should there be any doubt, or contention, respecting any judgment which they ought to make, let them send a deputation to London concerning it, and what the citizens of London shall adjudge in such case shall be deemed right and authentic. And they shall not plead without the city of Oxford respecting any matter with which they may be challenged, but of whatever matter they may be put in plea they shall deraign themselves according to the laws and customs of the city of London, and not otherwise; because they and the citizens of London are of one and the same custom, law, and liberty. Wherefore, I will, and strictly command that they have and hold their aforesaid liberties, laws, and customs, and tenures, as well and peaceably, freely and quietly, fully and honourably, with sok and sac [q], and toll and team, and infangenetheof [r], and all other liberties and customs and exemptions, as ever they enjoyed them in the time of king Henry my grandfather, and in like manner as my citizens of London hold them.'

Charter of 1st of king John, dated from Westminster, 14th June, 1199. 'John, by the grace of God, king of England, lord of Ireland, duke of Normandy and Acquitain, and earl of Anjou, to his archbishops, bishops, &c. sheriffs, provosts, and to all his bailiffs and faithful subjects greeting. Know ye that we have granted, and by the present charter have confirmed to the burgesses of Oxford, the town of Oxford, to be held of us and of our heirs as a perpetual farm, at the highest farm-rent which they were ever accustomed to pay in the time of king Henry our father, or of king Richard our brother: for which farm they shall account in that town to our sheriff of Oxford, for our exchequer, at two periods, viz. one half at Easter, the other half at the feast of St. Michael. Wherefore we will and do strictly enjoin that the burgesses aforesaid shall have and hold the said town with all its appurtenances and liberties, and free customs, in lands, waters, fisheries, mills, lakes, meadows [s], and pastures, and in all other things and places appertaining to the farm of that town.'

This charter is still preserved in a perfect state with the other muniments of the city.

[q] The power of holding a court, to hear pleas, and impose fines and penalties on transgressors.

[r] Power to try any thief taken within their jurisdiction.

[s] This includes Port Meadow, Cripley, &c.; also the city fisheries.

All the privileges, &c. beforementioned have been confirmed by nearly all the sovereigns from Edward III. to Charles II. Previously to the reign of Henry III, the city was governed by a mayor and two bailiffs; that king in the 32nd year of his reign, added two aldermen. In his 39th year, he by his charter ordained, That for the sake of the peace, quiet, and good government of the scholars of the university of Oxford, there shall be four aldermen in Oxford, and that eight respectable burgesses shall be associated with them, to be assistants and counsellors to our mayors and bailiffs, in keeping of our peace, in holding the assize of the said town, and in inquiring after malefactors and disturbers of our peace, wanderers by night, and receivers of thieves and malefactors.

Charter of 41 Henry III. 1257. 'Know ye, that we have granted and confirmed to our burgesses of Oxford, that they and their heirs for ever shall have the return of all our writs of summons to our exchequer, and of all our other writs touching the town of Oxford and its liberties: so that no sheriff, or other bailiff or officer of ours shall hereafter interfere respecting any summons, attachment, distress, or any other process, to be executed in the said town, unless through default of the said burgesses. And that they may plead in Oxford all pleas which belong to that town and its liberties, which they may, or have been accustomed to plead and conclude without our justices in eyre; as well those of *vetitum namium*[t] arising in the said town, as of other pleas to the said town and its suburbs appertaining; and that they may distrain within the town and suburbs, for their dues, from capital debtors and their sureties. And that the said burgesses shall not answer concerning any plea, whether of assize relating to any tenures within that town, or trespasses committed in the same, before our justices, bailiffs, or officers, without the gates of Oxford, unless these trespasses concern us or our houshold.'

The charter of 29th Edward I. recites and confirms the 13th and 41st of Henry III. That of 1st Edward III. recites and confirms all the preceding charters; and after declaring that the citizens of Oxford shall have the same liberties and customs as those of London, it proceeds to *specify* those liberties and rights. He especially declares that all pleas concerning any lands or tenements which are in the town or its liberties; or concerning trespasses, contracts, or covenants, made therein, or any other matter whatever originating there, shall be pleaded and determined before the mayor and bailiffs of that town for the time being, and not by others within the said town.

[t] The 'withernam' of the Saxons latinized.

That the burgesses whilst they remain in the town shall not be put with foreign men on assizes, or juries, before the king's justices; neither shall foreigners be put on their juries. That patent writs of right shall be issued to the said mayor and bailiffs in like manner as to the mayor and sheriffs of London. That if the king, or the barons of his exchequer, should not be in London when the mayor of Oxford is elected, the said burgesses shall present him to the constable of the Tower of London. That the hustings' court shall only be held once in a week in Oxford; that the aldermen of the town may hold a view of frank-pledge twice in the year in their respective wards, and shall do all those things which belong to that view, and to the keeping of the peace; so, however, that the liberties and privileges granted to the chancellor, master, and scholars of the university, may suffer no prejudice by reason of this grant.

The charter of 3rd of James I. was till September 1835 the governing charter of the city. It differs from all former ones, in that it gives very minute directions relative to the officers of the city; specifying their number and titles; the mode of their election, the time and locality in which it shall take place, &c. It ordains that their style and title shall be that of 'the mayor, bailiffs, and commonalty of the city of Oxford;' and that there shall ever be in the said city a mayor, 2 bailiffs, 4 aldermen, 8 assistants, and 24 members of the common council, conferring on these, when assembled, the power to enact such laws and ordinances, in writing, as may to them appear to be necessary for the good government of the corporate body, and of all the other inhabitants of the city and suburbs; and for the letting and leasing of all lands, tenements, and hereditaments vested in the mayor, bailiffs, and commonalty, and their successors: and grants that when they have made these laws, they shall have authority to inflict such punishments as they may deem meet, in order to enforce the observance of them, whether by imprisonment, fines, or amerciaments, visited on delinquents offending against the ordinances aforesaid: and that they shall levy and keep the said fines and amerciaments to their own use, and that of their successors, without any interruption from the king or his successors, or any of their officers, or without rendering any account thereof to any of the said officers; so that such laws and punishments be reasonable, and not repugnant or contrary to the laws, statutes, and customs of England. The directions for the election of the officers before mentioned, and of the high-steward, recorder, town-clerk, sergeants at mace, chamberlains, and constables, occupy the greater portion of the charter. It grants that they shall have a coroner, escheator, a court of record, cognizance

of pleas, the goods and chattels of felons and fugitives, deodands, waifs, strays, markets, fairs, exemption from toll, fines, perquisites of courts, a gaol, jurisdiction, customs, free usages, messuages, mills, waters, fisheries, lands, tenements, and all the hereditaments whatsoever, which they or their predecessors have ever had, used, or enjoyed, through the grants of the king's predecessors, or by legal prescription, use, custom, or any other lawful means, right, or title. To be held and enjoyed by them for ever; subject however to such annual payment to be made to the king, as had hitherto been paid to former monarchs. It concludes with an express proviso, that nothing in the grant contained shall be adjudged to extend in any way to the loss or prejudice of the chancellor, masters, and scholars of the university, or to the abridgement of any liberties, privileges, or hereditaments of the said chancellor, &c. or of any of the colleges, halls, or inns, in which the liberal arts and sciences are professed and taught.

The charter of the 16th of king Charles II. commences with a statement of the motives which induced the grant. 'Know ye, that we, for and in consideration of the true, faithful, and laudable services so abundantly rendered by the citizens of our city of Oxford, to us, and to our beloved father of blessed memory; and for divers other good causes and considerations at this time especially moving us; out of our particular favour, and from our certain knowledge, and unbiassed will, do give, grant, confirm, and ratify to the mayor, &c. all and every the messuages, mills, lands, tenements, tithes, meadows, common pastures, &c. granted to them by the letters-patent of our royal predecessors.' Those privileges are then recited, corresponding with the specification in the charter of king James I; the title and date of each charter being mentioned; and all therein contained is confirmed to the mayor and his successors for ever.

By the late act 5 and 6 of William the Fourth all laws, statutes, usages, royal and other charters, grants, and letters-patent relating to the city, remain still in force, except such as are inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions of the said act.

F Mackenzie. J. Le Keux.

THE CASTLE.

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MEMORIALS OF OXFORD.

VIEW FROM THE NEW ROAD.

Oxford Castle.

CASTLES walled with stone, and designed for residence as well as for defence, are considered by Grose and other writers to be, for the most part, of no higher antiquity than the conquest. The conqueror himself, observes sir Henry Ellis, in his 'General Introduction to Domesday,' was sensible that the want of fortified places had greatly facilitated his success. To remedy this defect, and to overawe his subjects, he erected numerous castles. Mathew Paris says expressly, that he surpassed all his predecessors in the construction of such fortresses. But, though his reign thus exhibits a new era in the history of our castellated structures, with respect to their number and superiority, there can be no doubt of the existence of several castles of importance long before.

Four are enumerated in Sussex alone; Arundel, Bramber, Lewes, and Pevenesey; of which considerable remains are still visible: and Camden says, that there was anciently a castle in every rape. The first castle attributed to William in the Saxon Chronicle, soon after his landing, is that of Hastings: but this must have been a temporary work, to cover his retreat, if necessary; or an adaptation of some former fortress to his present purpose. The appearance of D'Oiley's tower at Oxford exhibits similar marks of hasty construction: and Mr. King very justly remarks, that a tower and castle of residence of some kind or other must have existed here for a considerable period before the conquest [a]. The original castle, he observes, was in very old writings called by no other name than *Mota* [b]: and, whatever additional ditches D'Oiley might make for perfecting the works, and for conveying the river round the whole, there must have been a surrounding ditch and wall long before, formed by king Offa; who is well known to have raised many great earthworks elsewhere, and to have

[a] Vestiges of Oxford Castle, p. 2. fol. Lond. 1796. As this work was not reprinted in the Munimenta, and as it contains a very minute account of the castle, we have made free use of it on the present occasion; without adopting all the opinions of the author.

[b] See Spelman's Glossary. The word 'moat,' applied originally to the *moot*-houses, or fortified mansions of the Saxons, where they usually *met* on great occasions, has been latterly restricted to the ditch only, which surrounds them. A manor house, or court house, is in some parts of the country still called the 'moot,' or 'mote.' Those of Hereford and Windsor, with many others, were so called, at a very early period. During the Danish invasions Oxford was one of the SEVEN BURGS, or fortified towns, mentioned in the Saxon Chronicle; which appear to be nearly the same with those noticed as walled towns in the Domesday survey. In some instances the foss, or moat, is the only vestige of antiquity remaining; the walls being gone. Oxford has many interesting remains of both.

built great edifices at St. Albans and other places; and who we are positively told built walls at Oxford [c].

By him therefore it is most likely that a Saxon castle was originally built here, long before D'Oiley's time: a castle, which contained also such a sort of tower as was deemed, in those days, fit for royal residence. We accordingly find that Wood calls it expressly 'the king's house.'

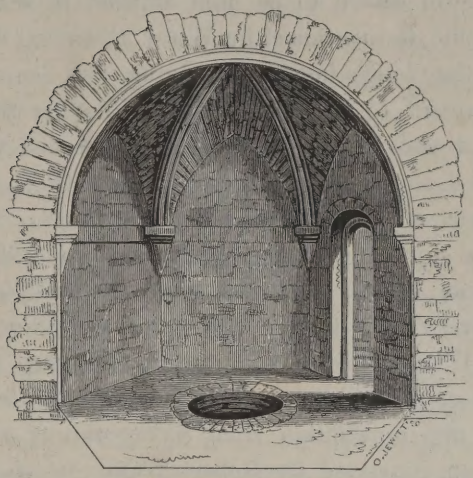
For that both Offa, and Alfred, and his sons, and Harold Harefoot, actually resided in the castle itself; and not, as some of the Norman kings afterwards did, in any adjoining palace; is most evident: because in the survey taken just after the conquest no mention is made of the remains of any other palace, or place of royal residence at all, in which they could possibly have dwelt at Oxford; though there is a very minute account of nearly 750 houses within and without the walls; chiefly held under the king, subject only to a quitrent and the reparation of the wall when required, or a fine of forty shillings on neglect. Twenty of these 'mural mansions' are expressly said to be then in the king's hands; which were held by earl Algar under the crown in the time of king Edward the confessor.

[c] Hearne's Preface, p. 103; Coll. Edmundi MSS. vol. LXXXVIII. p. 24. But, when it is added, 'where also he fought with the Kentish men,' it may be suspected, that Oxford has been confounded with Otford in Kent, the Ottanforda of the Saxon Chronicle, p. 75; where some manuscripts have Occanforda. Oxford appeared the more obvious, because the decisive battle of Benson was fought in the following year, A. D. 775; transferring to Offa the undisputed sovereignty of this district, which had been in the possession of the west Saxons, from Henley on Thames to Ensham, for 200 years. The union of Edburga, the daughter of Offa, with Bertric (now *Bertie*) king of Wessex, laid the foundation of the subsequent monarchy of Egbert; and Oxford continued long afterwards a distinguished seat of royalty.

Considerable Saxon remains, continues Mr. King, have been discovered by digging within the castle area: and plain common sense alone might easily lead us to conclude, that there must have been in Saxon times some kind of buildings of stone fit for the purpose of royal residence within the walls of this castle; when it is actually ascertained by ancient records, that even beyond the walls a Saxon tower of stone was really standing in the time of king Ethelred; at a distance far on the outside, on Grandpont: in the very place where in subsequent ages the Norman tower was built, called Friar Bacon's study from his occupation of it.

An inquisition, 5 Ed. III, mentioning the great crack and decay in the tower over the Oseney gate, mentions also the decay of an old hall; of a kitchen, and two chambers, with a wardrobe adjoining; which are said expressly to have been for the use of the custos [d] of the castle; of a bakehouse, a brewhouse, and a stable; besides the small church or chapel of St. George. We must therefore conclude, that at Oxford, as at Tunbridge, in the area of the castle were several additional buildings erected in successive ages. A well is mentioned as having been made in the 20th of Henry II. at the expense of 19*l.* 19*s.* and 7*s.* 4*d.* for *renewing* the guard-room, or wardrobe, 'pro warnisione renovanda,' according to the king's brief.

[d] The names of sheriffs, to whom the custody of the castle was committed by the king, together with that of the counties of Oxford and Berks, have been sometimes confounded with those of the regular 'custodes.' Both are often mentioned in the county rolls; and on one occasion it is thus recorded: 'Custodia (castelli) nunquam separata fuit a comitatu.' The keeper of the castle, though an officer under the crown, is still nominated by the county magistrates. The mills, being without the castle walls, are now held under the city. The Oseney property belongs to Christ Church.



ANCIENT WELL ROOM.

The well, which was discovered by Mr. Harris in the centre of the keep tower on the mount, has been quite cleared out; and a very fine spring of water has been found at its bottom, most remarkably cold: to the surface of which, the whole depth is fifty-four feet, from the floor of the well room; and therefore about seventy feet from the top of the mount[e]. The well room is in high preservation; and the architecture accords with the time of Henry II.

It is very remarkable, says Mr. King, that the tower still remaining, called St. George's tower, is always described as having been used by way of a campanile, from the time that St. George's chapel was used for a parish church: and therefore it must have been a campanile long before the time of king Stephen; since this parish

[e] Such wells are common in ancient castles. That at Carisbrook castle exceeds two hundred feet in depth.

church even ceased to be used as such in that reign [f]. Yet we find it mentioned by Wood as having been also used as the 'king's house,' or lodging.

Subsequent to the time of king Stephen this tower could not well be so used; because we find it always mentioned as being either connected with the church, and a part of it, or else as being a prison [g]. We must therefore suppose that this appellation was derived from some prior usage: and that could not well be in any age between king Stephen's time and the conquest, after Robert D'Oiley had once built a great keep tower, so much more magnificent. It must surely, therefore, have derived this appellation from Saxon times; and must have been converted by Robert D'Oiley to the purpose of a campanile for the church and house of secular canons, which he founded there, when his new keep tower rendered this useless as a royal residence [h].

[f] Sir John Peshall's Wood, p. 209.

[g] So early as the 15th of Henry III. permission was given, in the first place, to the chancellor of the university, to imprison his rebellious clerks in the castle; and then, by act of parliament 23 Hen. III, it was appointed the common gaol for the county: but we may be well assured, that neither by the first grant nor by the subsequent statute was any thing more meant in those days, than that here, as at Norwich castle and many other castles, some one apartment should be allotted as a legal prison. And it is not unlikely that the curious well room, which we have mentioned, was sometimes used for that very purpose: although in succeeding ages the tower of St. George's Church was made the prison; and latterly the whole precincts of the castle have been consigned to the county and university for this purpose; the city gaol being on Glocester green.

[h] But in the 41st year of Hen. III. when Inbert or Humbert Pugeys was keeper, there was a grant of 50*l.* for the repairs of the 'king's hall, chamber, wardrobe, gaol, bridge of the castle,' &c.; as also for the reparation of the 'king's palace without the castle in Beaumont.' V. Peshall from Wood, p. 205. So again, 5 Ed. II. an annual sum of

The structure itself, when minutely examined, confirms all these ideas. For, like truly old Saxon towers, its dimensions are small: like them, the apartment on the ground floor has no communication with those above: beneath there is a Saxon arch [i]: and the modern square prison windows, appear to have been inserted in places where were either loop-holes, or Saxon windows. What is still more deserving of notice; at the top, instead of being finished as a mere campanile would have been, this tower has, in a manner very much like those old Saxon castles at Castleton, at Porchester, and at Bamborough, the apparent remains of two remarkable arched windows; one on the side nearest to the north, and one on that nearest to the south: which yet were not in any apartment; but were merely belonging to the platform over the original roof: the wall by means of these windows serving as a better defence than a mere parapet with battlements.

A more strongly apparent specimen of very old Saxon fortification, entirely different from the usual mode of finishing the summits of Norman towers, cannot well be met with [k].

100 shillings was ordered from the king's exchequer to be paid to the sheriff for the reparation of the king's walls and *houses* in the said castle, if the same should be required. V. Abbr. Rot. Orig.

[i] Or early Norman; first opened perhaps to form a communication with the body of St. George's chapel; as the eastern walls of several other such towers have been pierced, when churches were built against them; being originally intended as watch towers or barbicans, i. e. *borough-beacons;* called sometimes *beacon towers*. The word *bar*, applied to a tower-gateway, is perhaps of similar origin.

[k] It is remarkable, that the walls of every stage of this tower, *except the uppermost*, are gradually contracted from the base. This last stage, however, is perfectly perpendicular, being furnished with loop-holes, and exhibits more scientific masonry; as if it were a later addition, or reconstructed. The same may be observed respecting the upper part of the angular turret, forming the present staircase.

The principal entrance also of this tower, which was into the first story above, has a great singularity, that points out a Saxon origin: for though it seems, in the time of Robert D'Oiley, to have communicated immediately with a covered way upon the top of the castle wall; by means of a short flight of steps up to the door; yet upon examination it appears by marks and traces on the outside of the wall of the tower, that originally, before St. George's church was built, a flight of stone steps descended from this door of entrance, on the first story above, quite down to the ground; almost exactly in the manner of some of the other early Saxon towers.

The suspicion of this having been originally a Saxon tower, whose walls still remain firm as in several other instances, whilst subsequent Norman buildings are crumbled away and lost, is greatly confirmed by a further discovery made by Mr. Harris of a most curious little Saxon crypt, seventy feet from the tower; for the description and a plate of which we refer our readers to Mr. King's work. We have given a view of it on a reduced scale.

ANCIENT CRYPT OR CHAPEL.

In order to carry on the foundations of the new buildings of Oxford gaol, Mr. Harris was unavoidably obliged to disturb the whole. He however replaced the pillars in a modern cellar as near the spot as possible; and as far as might be in the same relative situation. Only, in consequence of the foundations of a new round tower adjoining, the east end of the present little crypt is now made convex inwards, instead of being concave, as the original one was: and each pillar stands about one foot and an half removed from its pristine situation.

Robert D'Oiley the second, who succeeded his uncle the first Robert, and who founded the monastery at Oseney, taking part against king Stephen delivered up his castle at Oxford to the empress Maud for her residence; upon her coming hither, A. D. 1141, in great state from Winchester, with many barons: who had promised to protect her during the earl of Gloucester's absence in France; to which country he was gone at their request in order to bring over prince Henry. The earl of Gloucester had been very lately released from his imprisonment in Rochester castle in exchange for king Stephen, who had been imprisoned in Bristol castle; and Stephen during this absence of the earl, recovering from a severe fit of sickness which had at first ensued, marched rapidly and unexpectedly to Oxford: where having gotten into the city by surprise, and having set fire to it, he proceeded to shut up the empress by a most close siege in the castle from Michaelmas to Christmas; attempting, as he could not take the castle by force, to compel the castellans by want of provisions to surrender.

He therefore shut up every avenue by great works; raised two mounts at least over against the Keep: one afterwards called mount Pelham, and the other Jews'

mount; from its having in later ages been the place of the burning of some Jews, during the days of persecution: and from hence, we are told, he battered the castle incessantly with all the machines of war then in use; and probably with some of those very stone balls which have been found in the well.

During the quarter of the year that the empress Maud was besieged in Oxford castle, it is described as having been principally defended by two exceeding strong towers. Those two were most undoubtedly the great keep tower on the high mount, built by Robert D'Oiley; and St. George's tower, which there is so much reason to believe was the prior Saxon palace, and whose walls were near ten feet thick; whilst its summit had the most truly ancient mode of protection, for those who should be placed there, to annoy the besiegers. On all which accounts it seems manifestly to have been, that these two towers were so particularly distinguished beyond the rest.

The plan of Mr. Harris, engraved in Mr. King's work, pl. CXXVIII. f. 2. explains the relative situation of all these Saxon and other remains, as they originally stood, and also their dimensions; comprehended in our general plan, p. 12. The walls of the old tower at the foundation are at least nine feet thick; whilst the apartment within is only about nineteen feet by sixteen. This apartment has a large circular-headed archway on the east side, formerly walled up in part, but now open: which had no sort of communication with the rooms above. To them the only entrance was by a flight of steps on the outside; as at Conisborough castle. This in Norman times ascended from a covered way, or walk, on the top of the wall leading from the round tower: a mode of entrance which, combined with the great thickness of the walls and the want of communication with the room beneath, plainly shews that this tower could never have been designed for a mere campanile to a church, when it was first built; though it might have been converted to this use in D'Oiley's time; when also the large archway may have been opened, to form a communication with his new church, or chapel of St. George, as we have observed in p. 7.

At (*c*) in our general plan was the old St. George's church in Norman times; as is very evident from the vast number of human skeletons buried there, lying due east and west; and from the many fragments of paving tiles of different colours, with armorial bearings, found there. But that it was an edifice subsequent in its date to the tower, and by no means coeval with it, appears evident from its being placed so much aslant from that building: for had they both been built by Robert D'Oiley, and had the tower been originally designed for a campanile, they would most unquestionably have been placed quite even with each other; as is the case in all other Norman churches.

The remaining walls of this church had an old doorway with a circular arch; facing very nearly towards the situation of the Oseney gate of the castle: as might well be expected; when it is remembered, that the monks of Oseney were, by frankalmoign tenure, to perform divine service in this building.

At (*d d*) were apartments for the poor Oseney scholars maintained within the castle. But these, as well as other remains, and the ground floor of the tower itself, have long been used as parts of the gaol.

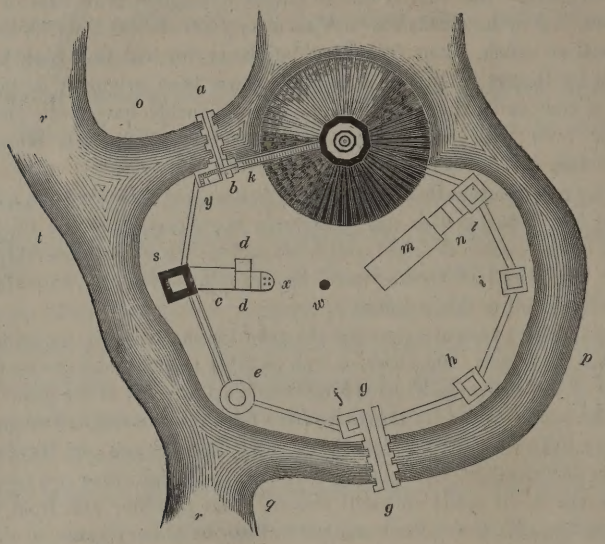
The round tower (*e*) is said to have been built during the reign of Henry III. 'in angulo castri', between St. George's or D'Oiley's tower and the gate, for the sum of 144*l.* 5*s.* Behind these two towers were the castle mills and mill stream, as at present; and from the corner opposite to (*s*) went another wall to the Oseney gate.

At (*x*) was the small Saxon crypt, not agreeing in its dimensions either with the more modern chapel above or with St. George's church. Its plan, with its four pillars, is exactly represented here and in p. 8, as it was first discovered: twenty feet in breadth, and twenty feet in length; including the semicircular part.

Over the crypt was built in latter ages a more modern chapel, for the use of the castle: the door being exactly behind a stone coffin which was found near the spot; as was also another further to the west near the angle of St. George's tower.

The building (*c*) in our plan, was undoubtedly Norman; of the time of Robert D'Oiley: and the apartments seem to have been more modern still; as well as the chapel over the crypt. But the crypt itself appears to have been most truly Saxon; and manifestly indicates the small dimensions of an original Saxon chapel, which was formerly built over it, long before the Norman age. The tower (*s*) also seems to have been as truly Saxon in its original formation: as is evident from the masonry; notwithstanding the many vicissitudes and reparations which it has subsequently undergone.

Pl. cxxx. f. 1. of Mr. King, and our vignette at the end, represent the present external appearance of this tower, with the alterations made in its upper walls. The loopholes at the top of the tower are also seen.



GENERAL PLAN OF THE CASTLE.

(*a*). The Oseney bridge; near which, there is reason to believe, was the original principal entrance of the castle, through a square tower at (*b*), nearly of the same construction with the tower of entrance at Arundel castle; on which account we may fairly conclude, that from this tower there was also an ascent by a covered way and steep flight of steps, on the top of a wall, quite up to the keep (*k*); the entrance to which flight of steps and covered way was in all probability by a narrow door at (*y*); nearly in the same manner as at Arundel.

(*s*). The old strong Saxon tower; now called St. George's tower, and sometimes D'Oiley's tower; still remaining.

(*c*). St. George's church; added to the Saxon tower in 1074.

(*d d*). Apartments adjoining to it; represented in Buck's view.

(*x*). The ancient Saxon crypt. See the engraving, p. 8.

(*e*). The round tower, rebuilt in the time of Henry III. See p. 11.

(*f*). A square tower adjoining to the original postern of the castle; which in succeeding ages became the chief entrance, on account of the decay of the Oseney gate.

But this tower, if Agas's representation is to be relied upon, seems rather to have stood close to the side of the gate, after the manner of the black tower at Cardiff, than to have had the gateway pass through it, as at Arundel;—and this perhaps may account for the strong fortification of the bridge of entry.

(*g g*). The long fortified bridge belonging to this entrance.

(*h i l*). Three other towers; which, in conformity to Agas, are here represented square; but which might probably have been some of them round; as in the representation of the tower (*e*).

(*k*). The great decagon keep of Robert D'Oiley, standing on an high mount; with the curious original deep well in its centre.

(*m*). The great hall, built most probably in the very beginning of the reign of Edward I. and falling into decay in the reign of Edward III. The old shire hall, in which were held the black assizes, was obviously the continuation of such a sort of building on this spot.

(*n*). The kitchen with its offices, and the chambers over them, mentioned in the records; which are placed here in conformity with the situation of all such offices in Edward the First's time.

(*r r*). The branch of the river running by the castle, which plainly seems to have been that called the mill stream in the ancient records as at present, and protecting the wall from the round tower to St. George's tower.

(*w*). Shews nearly the place of the central well; which in Mr. King's description is apparently confounded with the one made in the reign of Henry II: this is now again in actual use, near the present second gate of the castle prison; about twenty-two feet in depth.

In Buck's south-west Prospect of the City of Oxford may be seen, at one glance, both the distance beyond the walls of the castle, at which the tower called Friar Bacon's study was placed; where an old Saxon tower of stone once stood in the time of Ethelred;—and also the nearness of Oseney abbey. In the second volume of the same valuable work, by S. and N. Buck, there is a north prospect of the castle, which was finished in the year 1729. Parts of the ancient wall are there seen on either side of the tower, with buildings attached, and a circular-headed doorway.

For causing the water to flow into the great ditch (*o p q*) surrounding the castle, there was very anciently a lock, weir, or dam, a little below (*t*), with 'mansuræ'

or tenements built upon it, which was useful for a mill or mills, as at present [m]; protected by St. George's tower (*s*) somewhat in the same manner as there was formerly a dam protected by one of the towers of Tunbridge castle, for the purpose of diverting the course of the river in order to supply the works surrounding that castle with a part of its waters.

Such turning of the stream however round the castle at Oxford has long been disused: and the ditches having become in most parts dry [n], and filled up level, the present entrance of the castle is on plain ground.

Where stood the malthouse, brewhouse, stable, wardrobe, and other apartments which are mentioned in the ancient rolls, it is not of much importance now to determine. Of their very early existence there can be no doubt.

We cannot dismiss the subject without mentioning the taste and skill displayed in the construction and arrangement of the new buildings of the castle, as well as the

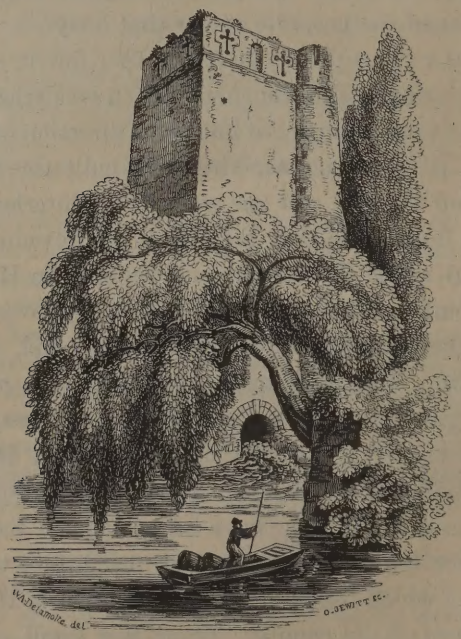
[m] More mills than one are mentioned in ancient records. Imbert Pugeys, to whom the custody of the castle was committed 37 or 38 Hen. III, had the moiety of the mills under the castle—'medietat' molendinor' subt' idem castrum;' the other moiety being probably vested in the hands of John de Turbervill. One mill only is mentioned, 32 Hen. III. with the king's mead. But the '*mills*' and mill-dam, 'wara,' with houses upon it, are mentioned in D'Oiley's charters of conveyance to Oseney abbey. The words 'supra waram,' however, in these charters, describing the situation of these very houses 'upon the *weir*,' or mill-dam, have been hitherto erroneously imagined to relate to a place called *Warham*. Vid. Monast. II. 137; and Stevens, II. 117—119.

[n] So early as in the reign of Edw. II. the herbage of the ditches is mentioned among the annual profits of the castle; of which the keeper was to give an account to the sheriff, and the sheriff to the crown. At that time Thomas Danvers was sheriff, and Richard Damory keeper; when an account was rendered of 79*l.* 2*s.* 7*d.*

commendable zeal and care bestowed in preserving as much of the old fortress as was consistent with modern accommodation. The towers exhibit an appropriate air of castellated security; an appearance of strength pervades the whole; and the interior is subdivided into distinct cells and compartments, where health, light, and cleanliness, have not been forgotten among other essential objects of the architect. It appears, that between the years 1783 and 1785 the county magistrates adopted the resolution of enlarging the precincts of the castle, and of rebuilding the whole. Accordingly the purchase of some additional ground was effected from the dean and chapter of Christ Church for the sum of 1171*l.* 10*s.*, the greater part of which was paid to Charles Etty, esq. the then lessee of the property under that body.

Among various plans delivered, after public advertisement, that of Mr. Blackburn, architect, was selected; and the works were commenced under the direction of Edward Edge of Bisley, Glocestershire, who built the boundary wall round the gaol and one wing of the interior. But it was not until 1805 that the entire improvements were completed under the superintendence of Mr. Harris, the Oxford builder. The total cost of these improvements, including the purchase of the additional ground, amounted to 19,033*l.* The magistrates most active in promoting this design were, Christopher Willoughby, esq.; afterwards a baronet; the earl of Macclesfield, Dr. Cooke, Dr. Onslow, and Dr. Nowel. Since that period various alterations and additions have been made in the gaol, in compliance with certain statutory provisions, the maintenance of which forms a considerable item in the annual expenditure of the county. There is a small committee room for the convenience of the magistrates; but the

ordinary business of the county, as well as that of the sessions and assizes, is conducted in the TOWN HALL; built chiefly at the expense of Thomas Rowney, esq. about the year 1752. A regular chaplain is appointed by the magistrates to visit the convicts in the gaol, and to perform the service daily in a small chapel constructed for the purpose within the precincts of the castle. The foundation of this chapel, as well as a considerable benefaction for the use of the poor prisoners in the castle, must be ascribed to the benevolence of Thomas Horde (or Howard) esq. Sir Thomas Pope also, the founder of Trinity college, left an annual sum 'pro pauperibus in Ergastulo.'



THE OLD TOWER FROM THE MILL-STREAM.

F. Mackenzie. J. Le Keux.

THE CLARENDON BUILDING AND BROAD STREET.

Published Nov.r 1.1833 by J. H. Parker, Oxford; C. Tilt, Fleet Street. & J. Le Keux, Harmondsworth.

MEMORIALS OF OXFORD.

TYPOGRAPHICAL DEVICES; No. 1. 1517.

The University Press.

ABOUT twenty years after the art of printing[a] had assumed something like a settled form, it was introduced into England by William Caxton, a London merchant,

[a] A general sketch of this subject, as far as it relates to Oxford, is all which can be given here: the reader who desires particular details must consult the *Typographical Antiquities* of Ames, Herbert, and Dibdin; with other bibliographical works, particularly Dr. Cotton's Typographical Gazetteer: though it must be confessed, that a full and satisfactory account of all which has been done by the art of printing in this place, is still a desideratum in the history of English literature.

who had attached himself to the service of Margaret countess of Richmond, mother of king Henry VII, and had travelled on the continent of Europe. By her desire, seconded by his own personal taste, Caxton contrived to make himself acquainted with the mechanism of the art; and returned from Germany to England provided with types, presses, and other requisite materials: and as the circumstances of those times rendered it advisable that the new 'mystery' should be exercised in connexion with the church, or under its sanction, he erected his press in one of the chapels [b] within Westminster Abbey, some say the 'almonry,' and there produced the first specimen of English typography about the year 1475.

Admiration of this novel method of abridging tedious labour, by a rapid and cheap multiplication of copies of such works as were required by the student of every class, would naturally invite attempts (especially by the clergy, who at this period were the sole depositaries and dispensers of all learning) to transfer so valuable an improvement from London to other parts of the kingdom, and to erect printing-presses wheresoever they were likely to prove useful. Within a very few years after Caxton's commencement, this was carried into effect at two places; namely, Oxford and St. Alban's; each of which was locally situated within a reasonable distance from the metropolis, and in each the clergy were the most efficient patrons and promoters of learning.

Oxford was the earlier of the two in practising the 'mystery,' as it was then called: for we have a specimen

[b] From this circumstance, when an assembly of the workmen is convened in any part of the house it is usual to say, "Let us call a *chapel;*" that is, "Let us hold a meeting."

of Oxford workmanship of the year 1478, if not 1468; while of St. Alban's none is known anterior to 1480. Other towns of England were much slower in providing themselves with presses. We know of nothing earlier than 1509 at York; Cambridge, 1521; Tavistock, 1525; Canterbury, Ipswich, Worcester, Norwich, &c. began to print at periods considerably later.

It was naturally to be expected, that Oxford, the seat of learning during so many ages, would view with intense anxiety the development of an art, which was calculated to exercise so important an influence over the whole world; and that the authorities of the university would not be slow in availing themselves of the advantages, which this great discovery was capable of affording to scholars in every department of literature.

From the little which now remains, we can form no accurate estimate of the extent to which the art was carried in this university during the fifteenth century; not more than eight or ten specimens of that period being known, and these not works of any particular importance or high character, as the reader may judge by a short description of them, given in chronological order in a note below [c]. They are all in the Latin language.

[c] The first is an Exposition on the Apostles' Creed attributed to St. Jerome, (really by Ruffinus,) a small volume in quarto, bearing the date of 1468, for which it is said we ought to read 1478. 2. A Latin version of the Ethics of Aristotle, 4to, 1479. 3. A Treatise on Original Sin, by Ægidius Romanus, 4to, 1479. 4. A Commentary on Aristotle's treatise on the Soul, by Alexander de Ales, printed by Theodoric Rood of Cologne, 'in alma univ. Oxon.' &c. folio, 1481. 5. A Commentary on the Lamentations of Jeremiah, by a monk named Johannes Latteburius, folio, 1482. 6. A Latin version of the Epistles of Phalaris, by L. Aretine, 4to, about 1485. 7. The Provincial Constitutions of J. Lyndewood, folio, without date. 8. A 'Liber Festivalis' of the Romish ritual, folio, 1486. Most of these appear in Dormer's MS. Catalogue, 1520.

These, with two others not yet described, comprise all the certain evidence which we now possess of the success and character of Oxford typography during the fifteenth century: and even of these volumes a very small number of copies have survived to the present day; the whole of which, as might be expected, have found their way into public, or some few of the choicest private libraries, and are treasured up as *morceaux* of the highest rarity. In point of execution they are creditable to the age, as well as to the place, both in respect to presswork and paper; and, generally speaking, have come down to us in a good state of preservation.

Respecting the first of these specimens, the St. Jerome, a very interesting question has been raised, which involves in it two considerable points; namely, the period —and the author—of the introduction of printing into England. This question was first agitated about the time of the restoration of king Charles II. Full particulars of it have been stated by several writers, who have handled the subject of English typography: and to these we must refer all those of our readers, who are desirous of obtaining more detailed information on the subject than the following brief sketch can be expected to supply.

It being perceived that the St. Jerome bore, clearly and without erasure, the date of 1468, in which year most certainly William Caxton had not commenced his labours, a book was put forth in 1664 by a gentleman of Balliol college, named Richard Atkyns, in which the honourable post of priority in the art is boldly assigned to Oxford; a printer is found for us, by name Frederick Corsellis; a full account is given of his personal history, of the manner in which he was smuggled into England, and of the reasons for which the press was first

erected in this university rather than in the metropolis.

The author of this publication confirms his statements by a reference to the authority of a manuscript record, said to have been preserved in the archbishop of Canterbury's library at Lambeth. But it is remarkable, that many inquiries and diligent searches of late years have constantly failed to produce that important record [d].

From 1486 we hear no more of the Oxford press or its productions, for a period of thirty years: and even then, after the appearance of half a dozen books, in 1517, 1518, and 1519, we again meet with a total blank of much

[d] It may be noted, that the account of Oxford printing given by Antony à Wood, in his Annals of the University under the year 1464, appears to be taken almost entirely from the above named publication of R. Atkyns. The exact spot in which the earliest of our printers exercised their calling has not been satisfactorily ascertained. None of the pieces executed before the year 1500 make mention of any street or dwelling-place. In 1506 there appears to have been at least a *bookseller's* shop in St. Mary's lane; known by the sign or 'intersignium' of St. John the Evangelist's head: and we have already noticed the MS. catalogue of John Dormer in 1520; who frequently mentions his *shop in Oxford,* and his importation of books *from beyond the sea.* In 1518, John Scolar, the then printer, describes himself as 'moram trahentem *in viculo* Sancti Johannis Baptistæ.' This phrase, for which *in vico* is used in 1519 by Charles Kyrfeth, the successor of Scolar, may seem to denote either St. John's *street* opposite to Merton college, or the adjoining *lane,* now Magpie lane; which was formerly called Grope lane, and some say *Wynkin lane,* from Wynkin de Worde, the celebrated successor of William Caxton in London; who has been supposed to have carried on the printing business at Oxford under the sanction of the authorities of the university. This point however requires confirmation. De Worde might, and probably did, execute some books for the university, as being the best workman of his day; he may even have had a shop in Oxford for the sale of his London publications: but that he actually lived, and printed, in this city, can scarcely be assumed upon such evidence only as at present we have before us.

longer duration, and are under the necessity of supposing the establishment to have been completely dormant during sixty-five years of the most important transactions both in Church and State; namely, from 1520 to 1585.

It is worthy of remark, that a similar interruption appears to have occurred to all the presses established throughout the kingdom, with the exception of those of London only. Cambridge produced nothing between 1522 and 1584. St. Alban's was at work only six years, from 1480 to 1486; then about three or four years, from 1535 to 1538; and was silent for ever afterwards. York produced only six or seven publications, none of them later than 1530. Tavistock only two, dated 1525 and 1534. Ipswich was fully employed for the space of one year only, 1548. Worcester, for not more than four. Canterbury and Norwich for periods almost equally short.

It has been surmised by some, that this most curious coincidence was mainly attributable to the influence of the papal clergy; who, though they could not openly avoid giving countenance to an invention so highly prized by the nation, yet bitterly disliked it in their hearts, and used every unseen effort to counteract or neutralize its effects. This supposition may possibly be correct, yet it is not sufficient to account for the entire results; for what influence could Romish priests have had in such matters after the accession of queen Elizabeth? Perhaps the reforming spirit of puritanism, which sat like an incubus on literature and the arts, and viewed the contents of all the libraries in the kingdom as monkish relics, operated to the discouragement of the printing trade. But, whatever may have been the concurrent causes, the fact itself is indubitable and well known.

TYPOGRAPHICAL DEVICES; No. 2. 1585.

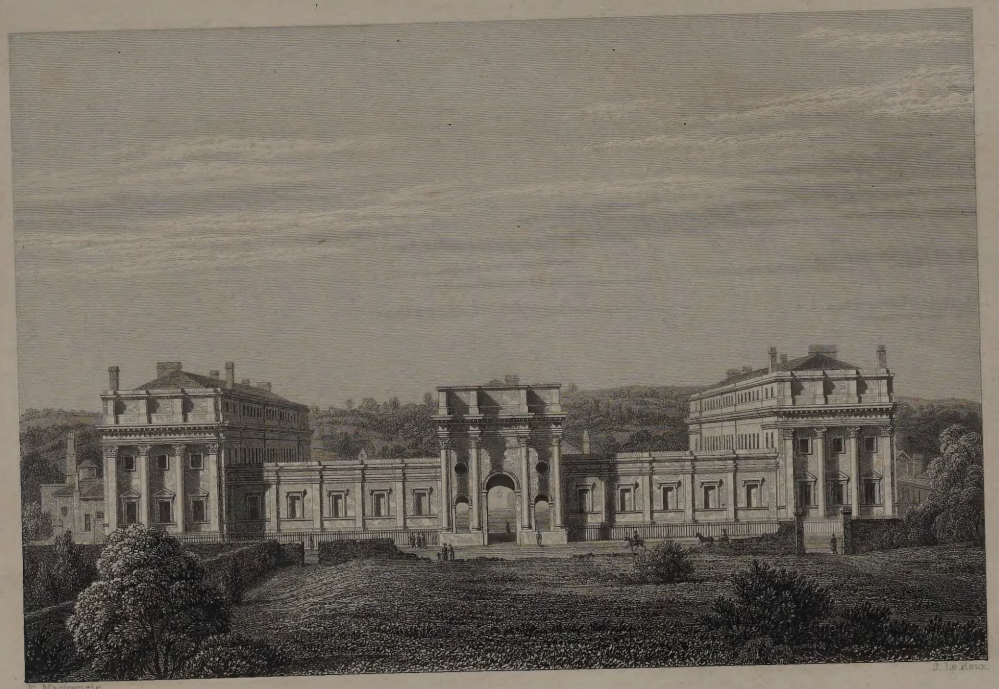
Late in the reign of Elizabeth, the earl of Leicester, being then chancellor of the university, had the good sense and spirit to revive and reorganise its typography. At his sole expense a new press was erected; a fit person was specially appointed 'printer to the university;' and in the year 1585 came forth the first-fruits of the establishment, 'Moral Questions upon Aristotle's Ethics,' by John Case, fellow of St. John's; dedicated, with great propriety, to the chancellor. From this time the academical press was kept in constant work. Joseph Barnes, the individual who had been named 'university printer,' laboured with great diligence two and thirty

years[e] in his vocation; so that before the close of the sixteenth century he had published between ninety and a hundred pieces by various authors, in English, Latin, and Greek; many of them works of high character, and most respectable in their style of execution[f].

During the troubles of Charles the First, that prince not only found shelter and supplies from this university, even the ancient plate of the colleges being melted down for the use of the mint, but the press was likewise most actively employed in his behalf. While the king resided, and the parliament was holden, at Oxford, numerous pieces in the shape of letters, proclamations, messages, manifestos, &c. immediately relating to the

[e] Barnes was succeeded, in 1617, by John Lichfield and James Short, who continued together till 1624; though their names do not always appear in the books which they printed. William Turner was then joined with John and afterwards with Leonard Lichfield, till 1658; when we find one A. Lichfield, who printed for the company of stationers, in partnership with Leonard. Hence these typographers to the university printed many books with the impress, 'Typis Lichfieldianis,' from about this time till long after the commencement of the eighteenth century: though Henry Hall also occurs as a printer here in 1648, and in conjunction with William Hall afterwards continued to print books till 1676. Samuel Clark, M.A. was elected 'Architypographus,' 14 May, 1658; and was succeeded in that office by Martin Bold in 1669. Henry Cruttenden printed a book at Oxford in 1668, in which he calls himself 'one of his MAJESTY'S printers.' This probably occasioned the omission of the printer's name afterwards in all books imprinted E THEATRO SHELDONIANO; E TYPOGRAPHEO CLARENDONIANO, &c.; a custom still observed with regard to books printed under the immediate direction of the Delegates of the Press, E TYPOGRAPHEO ACADEMICO.

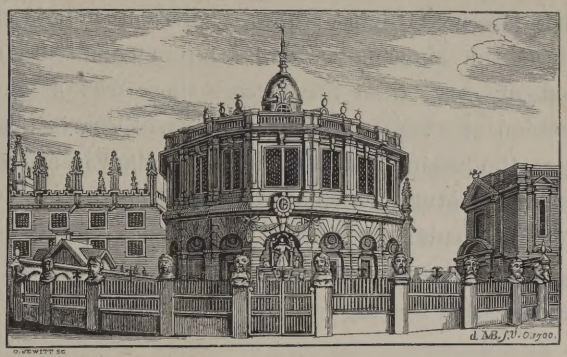
[f] The first Greek publication from Oxford appears to have been some 'Homilies of St. Chrysostom,' executed in the year 1586. The earliest Hebrew production of our press was Dr. Pococke's 'Porta Mosis,' 4to, 1655; Hebrew types having been then procured by the university, through the exertions of Dr. G. Langbaine, the learned provost of Queen's.



THE UNIVERSITY PRINTING HOUSE, FROM THE INFIRMARY.

Published Nov.r 1. 1833. by J. H. Parker, Oxford; C. Tilt, Fleet Street; & J. Le Keux, Barnondsworth.

king's affairs, as well as several pamphlets both in verse and prose, written in defence of his cause, were printed here; the university press being then in the hands of Leonard Lichfield, by some of whose family the office was enjoyed till the reign of George the First[g].



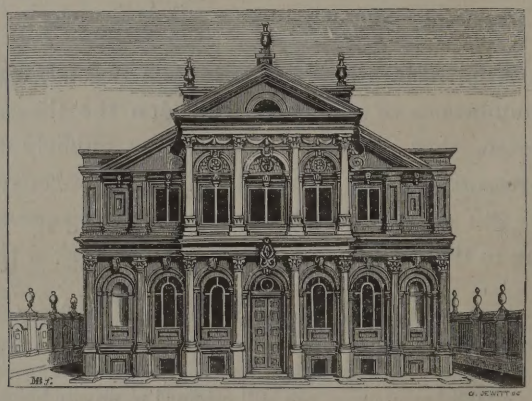
N°. 3. NORTH FRONT OF THE THEATRE.

After the restoration of Charles the Second, when by the munificence of archbishop Sheldon the theatre was completed, that splendid building was publicly opened and presented to the university in a solemn convocation on the 9th of July, 1669; and the printing-presses belonging to that body were from this time worked therein:

[g] A patent was granted to the university in 1632, empowering them to have three printers, with license to print all manner of books not forbidden by law: but there is no reason for supposing that printing establishments were not still confined to private houses. One of these was in the street called 'the Butcher-row,' and was destroyed by fire in 1644. It is possible that this accident, combined with other circumstances, may have led to the desire of obtaining a separate building, suitable to the academical dignity, and sufficiently large for its purposes; although many years necessarily elapsed before such a design could be carried into execution.

and a room beneath is still used as a warehouse for the books printed there and at the Clarendon press. The university books therefore long bore on their title-pages the words, E THEATRO SHELDONIANO[h].

Of this establishment the first fruits appeared in a Pindaric ode in praise of the theatre and its founder, by Corbet Owen of Christ Church, which was publicly recited at the abovenamed convocation; and during a period of more than forty years there was a constant succession of excellent editions of works in various languages, the productions of eminent scholars in all departments of literature, which are too well known to the world to need particular description. The typographical execution, and the extraordinary accuracy of these editions, have met with the highest commendations; and it must



No. 4. THE SHELDON THEATRE; S. ELEVATION.

[h] Or, as in one instance at least, E TYPOGRAPHIA SHELDONIANA. The Sheldon Theatre is acknowledged on the title-pages of books till the year 1759; though the process of printing was carried on chiefly at the Clarendon press as soon as that building was completed.

be allowed that some of the volumes, especially the copies printed on large paper, are most elegant specimens of the art.

Still the university was not provided with a specific building for the uninterrupted and exclusive exercise of its printing business, now greatly increased by the rising demands of the public: for the body of the theatre being designed and used for other purposes, a small portion of it only was available for the combined purposes of press-room and warehouse. This uncomfortable state of things continued until the reign of queen Anne; when the copyright of the earl of Clarendon's History of the Rebellion being presented to the university, the profits arising from the sale of copies were applied towards the erection of that stately fabric situate on the eastern side of the Sheldon theatre, which in just commemoration of that illustrious statesman was denominated THE CLARENDON PRESS. The whole typographical apparatus having been removed to this more commodious building, the new printing-house commenced its operations in the month of October, 1713[i]: and we may safely appeal to its numerous volumes, which for more than a century have been in the hands of the reading public, in support of the assertion, that no similar establishment ever reflected greater credit on a seat of learning, or a kingdom at large, than this is allowed to have done on Oxford and on the British empire.

During one hundred and eighteen years the CLARENDON PRESS was constantly and beneficially employed

[i] English antiquaries will be gratified to know, that the first sheet worked off was the signature Z in the third alphabet of LELAND's Collectanea, then in course of publication by HEARNE.

under academical direction; one half of the building being appropriated to the printing of Bibles, Prayer-books, &c., agreeably to the privilege conferred on the two universities and the king's printer, and the other half devoted to works of general literature, of which it poured forth an abundant supply.

N°. 5. THE CLARENDON PRESS.

At length the enormous and still growing demand for books of every kind, which forms so distinguishing a feature of the present age, created a necessity for again enlarging the effective powers of the academic press, and compelled its directors to provide a more ample receptacle for all their printing machinery and stores, now so much increased. As none was found suitable to the purpose, the university most judiciously applied such funds as the Press itself, in a series of years, had accumulated, to the erection of a capacious and handsome pile of building in the north-western suburb of the city. This now bears the appellation of THE UNIVERSITY PRINTING-

HOUSE; at which the entire business of its printing has been carried on since the month of September, 1830[k].

In early times, for the better encouragement of typography, sovereign princes, who had introduced the newly-discovered art into their dominions, took pains to foster and protect its exercise by certain grants and privileges, conceded either directly by themselves or through some delegated magistrate, to such printers as were judged worthy to receive this mark of favour. It was a just and wisely conceived measure, not more requisite for restraining piracies and invasions of another's right, than conducive to the interests of real learning, by preventing ignorant pretenders from meddling with matters wholly beyond their reach, and depraving or obscuring that which they took upon themselves to illustrate.

There is evidence to shew, that the power of conferring such a privilege within the limits of his academical jurisdiction was possessed and exercised by the chancellor of Oxford, more than three hundred years ago. In a book printed here by John Scolar, in the year 1518, the printer recites an edict of the chancellor under his official seal, enjoining that for the period of seven years to come no person should venture to print that work, or even sell copies of it elsewhere printed, within Oxford and its precincts, under pain of forfeiting the copies and paying a fine of five pounds sterling, in addition to other penalties specially named in the instrument itself, for every such offence. During the period of censorship throughout England, the vice-chancellor was the authorized licenser of all books printed at the university. Hence

[k] The first sheet worked off at the new press was 2 P of Bishop Lloyd's Greek Testament, 12mo. The first English work finished there was Barrow's Theological Works, 8 vols. 8vo, 1830.

his IMPRIMATUR ; which is generally seen on the reverse of the title-page, though sometimes opposite.

The university has by statute entrusted the management of its press to a select body of eleven of its members, including the vice-chancellor and proctors for the time being, who are called 'Delegates of the Press.' These direct and regulate all its operations, without other interference; unless any special order be given by convocation, to which all delegates are responsible; and by their careful superintendence of its productions, they contribute to render it a most efficient instrument of diffusing true religion and sound learning to all parts of the world, wheresoever the English language has found its way.

The fidelity and accuracy of the books printed under their management being generally acknowledged, and their style of execution being highly creditable to all parties concerned, it appears needless to call attention to those points. But the reader will form to himself a very imperfect estimate of the value and importance attached to the Oxford Press, who permits himself to look only at its immediate effects on its own resident members, and regards it merely as an instrument for providing a ready and correct supply of books for academical study. While it satisfactorily effects this, it also performs much more important functions. It exercises a salutary influence over the whole press of Great Britain; stimulating it by the force of its example, and kindling a spirit of generous emulation: and furnishes immense supplies of the Holy Scriptures, with a rapidity commensurate with the daily increasing wants of the public, and with a correctness for which every candid judge and pious Christian will not fail to be thankful.

With respect to the various engraved DEVICES, which are seen to adorn the title-pages of many Oxford books, and of which a few specimens are here given, it must be remembered, that this kind of decoration is not peculiar to any one place or country: it has prevailed throughout all parts of Europe from the very first invention of typography, according to the taste and fancy of the printers. The earliest books, it is well known to scholars, had no distinct title-pages such as we now use: but it was usual to reserve for the *last* page of the work, the title, date of its completion, or other circumstances, and sometimes the cypher, rebus, monogram, emblem, coat of arms, or other device; by which the printer designed to honour either his patron or his sovereign, as well as to distinguish the productions of his own press. This was usually called the *colophon*.

Of these devices bibliographers are acquainted with a very great and amusing variety, as might have been expected from the different tastes of so many hundred artists who employed them. Collections of these have been made and given to the public, but of course including only a small portion of the whole. The earliest printers at Mayence, Fust and Schoiffer, exhibited at the end of their publications two shields charged with armorial bearings, very tastefully worked off in red ink. Caxton, our first English typographer, decorated his volumes with a coarse and inelegant cypher, which received some improvement under his immediate successors. The St. Alban's press, so early as the year 1483, affixed to its books the armorial ensigns of that abbey.

At a later period, when title-pages had been introduced, the characteristic ornament was first repeated, and then transferred entirely to the first page from the last; and almost every printer of eminence took to himself a particular device. Thus, the anchor of Aldus, the lily of Junta, the olive of Stephens, with the several marks of Colinæus, Gryphius, Elzevir, &c. are familiar to all scholars.

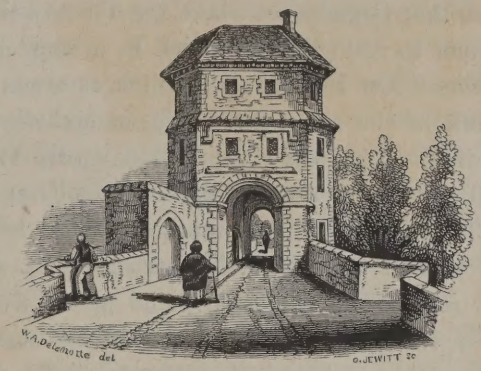
No device, of whatever kind, appears on any of the known Oxford books executed during the fifteenth century. We are not aware of any one earlier than that which is here exhibited in a woodcut as our first specimen; which is found in a work by Walter Burley, of the date of 1517. It is an engraving in wood representing the university arms in a shield supported by two angels; but instead of our present motto, *Dominus illuminatio mea*, which was introduced after the restoration of Charles II, we here read *Veritas liberabit, Bonitas regnabit.* Our second specimen, taken from books of the seventeenth century, presents a device somewhat different, in which the two angels appear above, and two fiends below, with the appropriate motto on the open book of seven seals: SAPIENTIÆ ET FELICITATIS: a motto

F. Mackenzie. J. Le Keux.

THE RADCLIFFE OBSERVATORY.

Published Dec.1st 1834, by J.H.Parker, Oxford; C.Tilt, Fleet Street, London; & J.Le Keux, Harmondsworth.

MEMORIALS OF OXFORD.



FRIAR BACON'S STUDY.

IN a place like Oxford, where the sciences have been cultivated from the earliest period of our civil history, it is impossible that practical astronomy should ever have been wholly neglected; and there is one very remarkable instance in which the situations are precisely known where very early observations have been made. In the thirteenth century, the university was crowded with students, and the difficulty of intercourse with distant parts of the country kept the senior members in permanent residence, while it prevented most of the younger men from leaving Oxford even in the vacations. It was therefore not unusual in those times for any, who wished to apply to a particular pursuit, to seek some quiet retreat in the neighbourhood, where they might be removed from the general occupation and excitement. Roger Bacon accordingly made many astronomical observa-

tions on the tower of Sunningwell church, about four miles south of Oxford. This, however, though not far distant, was sometimes of difficult access, especially in winter: the meadows on that side of Oxford are now frequently overflowed, but they were then one continued swamp, so that Grandpont, where the Thames is crossed on the road to Abingdon, extended to a long causey of forty arches. On the part, in which it abuts on the south bank of the river, there was an archway with a tower over it, which was not pulled down till 1779, and had acquired from his use of it the name of Friar Bacon's study. The Franciscan convent, of which he was a member, was in a part of the parish of St. Aldate's, which is still called the Friars, and was conveniently situated for this station, which is the earliest observatory in Oxford of which there is any record.

When Henry the VIIIth established his regius professorships, he made no provision for mathematics or physics, and those important branches of science were left to the unendowed lecturers till 1619, when sir Henry Savile gave the means of regular instruction by his foundations for geometry and astronomy. That wise as well as noble and liberal man well knew what would be most practically useful, and particularly pointed out in his statutes[a] the advantages of astronomical observations. He did not live to complete his endowment to the extent that he contemplated, but he had consigned to the university the care of providing an observatory[b]: it was long, however, before this part of his plan was executed. There is in the Savilian library a large collection of instruments which belonged to professor John Greaves,

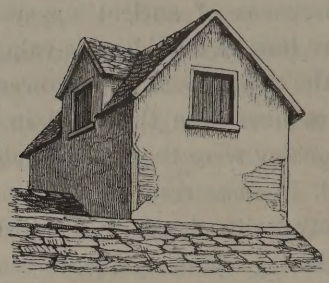
[a] Sect. 2. [b] Ibid.

and although they are now no longer of any interest, excepting as specimens of ancient apparatus, they must when new have been of considerable value. He probably used them in the upper room of the tower of the schools; which seems to have been the place, in which the professors of astronomy were then in the habit of observing. It was, indeed, in some respects very inconvenient, but there was no other situation so well suited to the purpose before the beginning of the eighteenth century.

Dr. Wallis occupied Stable Hall in New College lane[c], at the end of the cloisters; and in 1704, the lease of it under New College was given by his son to the university, in order that the tenement might be appropriated to the use of the Savilian professors. There is a letter in the Bodleian from Dr. Gregory to Dr. Charlett, March 1705, in which he says, "I hope Mr. Halley will prevail so far, as that the university will repair the house, and the adding an observatory to the top of it will be very convenient and indeed useful to the university, and what sir Henry Savile did expect from them, as you will see in sect. 2 of his Statutes." In another letter also to Charlett, June 1705, Halley expresses "many thanks for repeated favours, as well in what relates to my house, wherein I must esteem you my great benefactor[d]" as for other services. It is very probable therefore that the houses were at that time repaired, according to Gregory's suggestion, and the observatory erected, as seen in our woodcuts, on the western part, which was assigned to the professor of astronomy.

[c] See the woodcut, p. 9, compared with that in p. 4.

[d] This part of Halley's communication is printed in "Letters written by eminent persons." London, 1813, vol. i. p. 139.



OLD OBSERVATORY IN NEW COLLEGE LANE.

There is a tradition of this building having been erected by Professor Bradley; but its plan seems to indicate an earlier date. It was undoubtedly much used by that eminent astronomer, but he was from early youth accustomed to meridional observation, and would not have confined himself to four comparatively small apertures towards the four cardinal points, which in fact obliged him to set up his transit instrument in one of the back windows of the Museum.

At Dr. Halley's death in 1742, Bradley became astronomer royal at Greenwich; and Bliss, who at the same time succeeded to the professorship of geometry, established an observatory on the part of the city wall, which extended from his house to the north-west angle of New college cloisters. The rampart was cut away by Dr. Smith about 1768, but it was entire in Bliss's time, and possibly formed the firmest basis that he could have any where procured: his meridian mark was upon All Souls.

Bradley having died in 1762, was succeeded in his professorship at Oxford by Hornsby, who had an observatory of his own in Corpus, of which college he was

fellow; and from a paper of his in the Phil. Trans.[e] we have some interesting particulars respecting the places in which the transit of Venus was observed in Oxford in 1769. Hornsby stationed himself in the upper room of the tower of the schools; Mr. Lucas, fellow of New College, and Mr. Clare, fellow of St. John's, were on the tower of New College; and as the phenomenon took place in the evening of the third of June, an unfurnished room in the infirmary, commanding the north-west, was used by Mr. Nikitin a Russian, then of St. Mary Hall, and Mr. Williamson[f] of St. Alban Hall. Observations were also made, probably in their respective colleges, by Mr. Sykes of Brasennose, Mr. Shuckburgh of Balliol, "by the rev. Mr. Horsley, F. R. S. and Mr. Cyril Jackson, A. B. and student of Christ Church." In a separate paper of Horsley[g], he says that he observed in the same room with Mr. Jackson, but unfortunately no mention is made of the place, in which that room was situated. This is the more to be regretted, since there would be a pleasure in preserving the particulars,—connected as they are, under such circumstances, with the memory of a man, to whom the university, when he was afterwards raised to a very high station in it, was so deeply indebted.

This dispersion of observers in different places, not one of which was properly suited to their object, was the consequence of no regular observatory having yet been established in Oxford; but steps had been taken even before that time to remove this serious evil. In 1768 professor Hornsby had applied for this purpose to the

[e] Vol. lix. p. 172. [f] Afterwards of Hertford college.
[g] Phil. Trans. Vol. lix. p. 183.

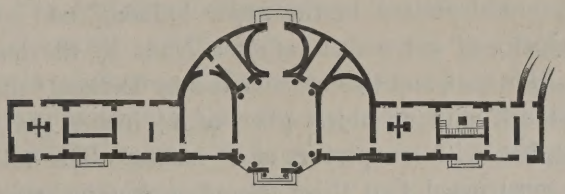
earl of Litchfield, who was one of the trustees of Dr. Radcliffe's estates as well as chancellor of the university, and the application being supported by the leading men in Oxford was favourably received. The duke of Marlborough also contributed a lease [h] of eight acres and a half of ground, which he held under St. John's college, affording a situation, which at the time was sufficiently removed from any surrounding buildings. In 1772 a plan was delivered in by Mr. Keene, and some progress appears to have been made in the execution of it; but in March 1773 the further advance was suspended in favour of another elevation, which he had designed, the general form of which will be better understood from the engraved view than from any verbal description. The dwelling-house, the two wings, and the central part as far as the platform, were built before Mr. Keene's death in 1776: Mr. James Wyat, who succeeded him as architect to the trustees, altered some of the outward parts and raised the octagon building at the top, which is designed from the temple of the winds at Athens. The whole was roofed in about 1778; but the external sculpture [i] and some of the internal arrangements required more time, so that the work was not finished till 1795.

The front extends 175 feet, each of the wings being 69, and the top of the globe is about 106 from the

[h] To promote the stability so necessary to a scientific institution, St. John's college was afterwards induced to sell the fee to the Radcliffe trustees under the sanction of an act of parliament in 1820.

[i] The figures in bronze, at the top, of Hercules and Atlas supporting the globe, and of the winds, which are copied from the designs in Stuart's Athens, on the eight sides of the tower, were executed by Bacon: on the walls, under the platform, the bas reliefs representing the signs of the zodiac, and the rising, noon, and setting sun, were modelled in Coade's artificial stone by Rossi.

ground. A covered way leads from the dwelling-house to the eastern wing, in which the principal instruments are placed for the regular meridional observations, and the annexed plan will explain the arrangements on the ground floor.



GROUND PLAN OF THE OBSERVATORY.

The eastern wing contains two mural quadrants of 8 feet radius, a zenith sector of 12, and an 8 feet transit instrument, all made by Bird in the years 1772 and 1773. Dr. Hornsby was the private friend of this great artist [k], who employed his utmost skill in completing what he had undertaken; and the construction of the zenith sector, by which the instrument can be most readily reversed, is peculiarly remarkable for its excellence and simplicity.

These instruments are placed in three adjoining rooms, the quadrants in that at the eastern extremity, and the zenith sector in the small northern apartment next to it. This opens most conveniently to the transit room, and beyond that is first a library, and then the central hall, which is 30 feet in diameter. On the north side of it is an elliptical staircase [l], which leads to the upper

[k] Hornsby was the first person who could induce Bird to use achromatic glasses, against which he had taken up an extraordinary prejudice.

[l] To make room for this and other accommodations, it will be seen, from the ground plan, that a circular form is given to the northern side of the centre.

rooms. On the first floor there is a spacious lecture room, with two apartments adjoining for the reception of apparatus; these are all very lofty, reaching up to the broad platform, and the whole to that height is built with the greatest solidity, so as to afford a firm support for the instruments which are used upon it. They are deposited in the upper building, and consist principally of a ten feet reflector, made by the late sir Wm. Herschel, and two achromatics by Dollond; the one of 10 feet, with an object glass of $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches, the other of $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet, with an aperture of $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches. The building is so constructed that these telescopes may be taken out into the open air, or may be used from the windows, which for that purpose are set in each of the eight sides of the building. Immediately under the roof also there are four other windows, which open on a gallery that surrounds the interior of the room; this gives additional means of taking a view, if necessary, from a greater elevation.

The western answers exactly to the eastern wing in the arrangements of its rooms. It contains the mural quadrant by Bird, with which Hornsby[m] made his first determination of the latitude of Oxford. The observations, from which he deduced the quantity, were made by him at Corpus.

In the room at the western extremity of the whole is a small transit by Bird, which Hornsby was in the habit of using before the observatory was built. This room will however be put, ere long, to a more useful purpose; since it is immediately to be fitted up for the reception of a six feet circle, on which Mr. Jones, of Charing Cross, is at present employed, with a view to remove the prin-

[m] Phil. Trans. vol. lix p. 181.

cipal difficulties attending the common construction of that kind of instrument.

The plan of the observatory did not admit of the equatorial being placed at the top of it: a separate building was therefore erected for this instrument where the horizon was most free from interruptions. Bird did not live to complete it; and the apparatus, in this particular instance, was not so perfect as it would have been if it could have had the advantage of being finished by his hands. The Radcliffe trustees have therefore determined that a new equatorial shall be procured, with every advantage which can be obtained from modern improvements. This, together with the circle, will require a very large sum: but the trustees in their liberal patronage of science have never spared any expense, when it could be usefully employed, and in their support of the establishment have made every thing worthy of the inscription in the hall; which notices that all was derived

MUNIFICENTIA
JOHANNIS RADCLIFFE. M. D.

STABLE HALL, NEW COLLEGE LANE; see p. 3.

ASHMOLEAN MUSEUM.

It is well known that the first collection of the curiosities, natural and artificial, which now form but a small part of the contents of the Ashmolean Museum, was made by John Tradescant, by birth a Dutchman; who is supposed to have come to England about the end of queen Elizabeth's reign, or the beginning of that of James the First. He was a considerable time in the service of lord treasurer Salisbury and of Edward lord Wotton; travelled in various parts of Europe, as far as Russia; was in a fleet sent against the Algerines; and collected plants in Barbary and the isles of the Mediterranean. He had a garden at Lambeth; and in the reign of Charles I, in 1629, bore the title of king's gardener. He was a man of extraordinary curiosity, and was the first who in this country made any considerable collection of the subjects of natural history. His son, of the same name, went to Virginia, and thence imported many new plants. His museum, called Tradescant's ark, attracted the curiosity of the age, and was much frequented by the great; by whose means it was also considerably enlarged, as appears by the list of his benefactors, printed at the end of his Museum Tradescantianum: amongst whom, after the names of the king and queen, are found those of many of the first nobility; the duke and duchess of Buckingham, archbishop Laud, the earls of Salisbury and Carlisle, &c.

John Tradescant the son, who died in 1662, inherited his father's collection, and bequeathed it by a deed of gift to Elias Ashmole [a], who lodged in his house. This be-

[a] Elias Ashmole, whom Wood styles "the greatest virtuoso and curioso that was ever known or read of in England," to whom the

coming afterwards a part of the Ashmolean Museum, the name of Tradescant was sunk.

Ashmole amongst his various pursuits had at one time studied botany, which probably led him to form an intimacy with the Tradescants. He was the son of a saddler in Litchfield, and was born, as he states with his accustomed punctuality, at near half an hour after three o'clock in the morning on the twenty-third day of May, 1617. He was successively a solicitor in chancery, an attorney in the common pleas, a gentleman in the ordnance, when Oxford was garrisoned by the royal army, an exciseman or comptroller of the ordnance, a free mason, astrologer, botanist, chemist, anatomist, physician; and, though last not least, a very learned herald. Heraldry seems to have been his fort, and astrology his foible. It is difficult to reconcile the acquisition of so much dry business-like knowledge with the taste for so much of the visionary and fanciful. But it should be remembered, that the word astrology comprehended then almost all that was known of astronomy.

Ashmole enriched the Tradescant collection, which consisted chiefly of the skins and bones of animals, with a collection of medals, coins, and gold chains, presented to him by the elector of Brandenburgh and others; and with a valuable collection of paintings [b], manuscripts,

Tradescant collection was left, gives a minute statement of that bequest in the very strange diary of his own life.

[b] These are now chiefly on the staircase. Among them are portraits of Thomas, earl of Arundel, and his son, by Vandyke; sir John Suckling, when young, by Dobson; Dr. Plot, first keeper of the Museum; John Selden, esq. in advanced life; Dr. J. Dee; a curious original portrait of Elizabeth Wydevile, queen of Edward IV.; John king of France, taken prisoner at the battle of Poictiers; the Tradescant family, by Dobson; Oliver Cromwell; Lewis XI. of France;

and printed books on history, heraldry, and astrology; for he had purchased the library of Lilly the celebrated astrologer; a detailed catalogue of which has been lately made by the indefatigable antiquary Mr. Black.

The library of the Museum has since been increased by sir W. Dugdale's, Anthony à Wood's, and Mr. Aubrey's manuscripts; which last have furnished much amusing matter for a publication, printed some years since by the rev. J. Walker, of New College, under the title of Oxoniana. It has also been enlarged by Martin Lister's collections of shells, as well as those of Plot, Llwyd, and Borlase, and other objects of natural history. It has been from time to time enriched by the valuable donations of many other benefactors[c]: particularly those of the Alfred gem, given in 1718 by Thomas Palmer, esq. of Fairfield, Somerset; the large magnet; the very curious group of figures made with humming-birds' feathers; and lately by a great portion of the antiquities described in the Nænia Britannica, presented by that liberal antiquary sir Richard Colt Hoare, bart.

In a pecuniary point of view its greatest benefactor was Dr. Richard Rawlinson, the founder of the Anglo-

Henry duke of Gloucester; Edward V; William Lilly the astrologer; Richard Napier, M. D.; Ben Jonson; Edward lord Wotton of Marley, brother of sir Henry Wotton; Inigo Jones; Erasmus; John Lewin, the celebrated comedian; Thomas Parr, at the age of 152; a dead Christ, by Annibal Carracci; the descent of Christ into hell, by Brugel; a curious historical representation of the celebrated battle of Pavia, 1525; &c.

[c] Among others Dr. George Clarke, fellow of All Souls, bequeathed several valuable curiosities; the most beautiful of which are, the model of a sixty-four gun ship made by William Lee, esq. and two others of royal yachts constructed in 1697 and 1702. See Dr. Clarke's will, 1737, and the manuscript register in the Museum.

F.Mackenzie. J.Le Keux.

THE ASHMOLEAN MUSEUM.

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Saxon professorship; who bequeathed a salary for the curator, though under several exclusive conditions, which are detailed in his will.

For many years the Museum had been so much neglected, that it attracted but little curiosity; when in the year 1824, it was fortunately entrusted to the care of John Shute Duncan, esq. fellow of New College. He found that the skins of animals collected by the Tradescants had fallen into total decay, that cabinets for those objects which were liable to injury from time were wholly wanting, and that the apartment dedicated to the exhibition of them had become much dilapidated. Happily at this time a taste for the study of natural history had been excited in the university by Dr. Paley's very interesting work on Natural Theology, the popular lectures of Dr. Kidd on Comparative Anatomy, and those of Dr. Buckland on Geology. Availing himself of this spirit, the curator induced the trustees to sanction an application for a general repair of the Museum. Their wish was seconded by the liberality of convocation. When the upper room had been thus repaired, and put in its present condition, the next step of the new curator was to fit it up with cabinets; in which he might arrange in proper order what he found in a very confused state in the Museum, and might place therein such objects of natural history, antiquities, or curiosities, as were purchased by himself, or which might be given by future benefactors.

It was a fortunate circumstance for the Museum, that on the regretted resignation and retirement of Mr. John Duncan in 1829, the appointment of his brother Philip B. Duncan, esq., fellow also of New College, has left the lovers of science no ground for a relaxation of their exertions and support.

Upon the removal, in the year 1832, of the geological collection to the Clarendon, and of the instruments, &c. from the room formerly used by the professors of natural and experimental philosophy, the ground-floor apartments [d] were thrown into one large room. This is now much improved by the addition of some well proportioned Ionic pillars; which contribute to the embellishment of the building, whilst they ensure its strength. The whole forms a handsome saloon; and having been recently fitted up by the present keeper, it exhibits an arranged collection of shells, some of the larger quadrupeds, together with a valuable series of heads of animals and birds. Among the latter is the unique head of the now extinct bird, called the dodo. Some of these rarities constituted a part of the Tradescant collection. In another portion of the room are displayed various dresses, instruments, &c. from the East, Southern Africa, the Sandwich Islands, and from the territories of the Esquimaux Indians; presented by Mr. Reinhold Forster, captains Lyon and Beechey, lieutenants Hardinge and Cole, W. Burchell, esq. and other travellers. There are also some admirable portraits of king Charles the First and Second, James the Second, Tradescant, and the Founder, Elias Ashmole, esq. The upper room is dedicated to the collection of birds, beasts, fishes, and insects, systematically arranged; to those of coins and antiquities, together with the books belonging to the Museum and the Ashmolean Society.

This repository now exhibits, principally from the liberality of the late and present keepers, J. S. and P. B. Duncan, esqrs., a well arranged collection of many

[d] Beneath the Museum is a residence for the professor of chemistry, and a laboratory where his lectures are delivered.

of the genera in every department of zoology, with some beautiful and rare species included in each genus.

The foundation of a collection in geology was laid in this Museum so early as the time of James the Second, by Dr. Plot the first keeper, and by his successor Mr. Edward Llwyd; and many specimens of fossil organic remains are still preserved here, bearing the numbers affixed to them by these authors [e].

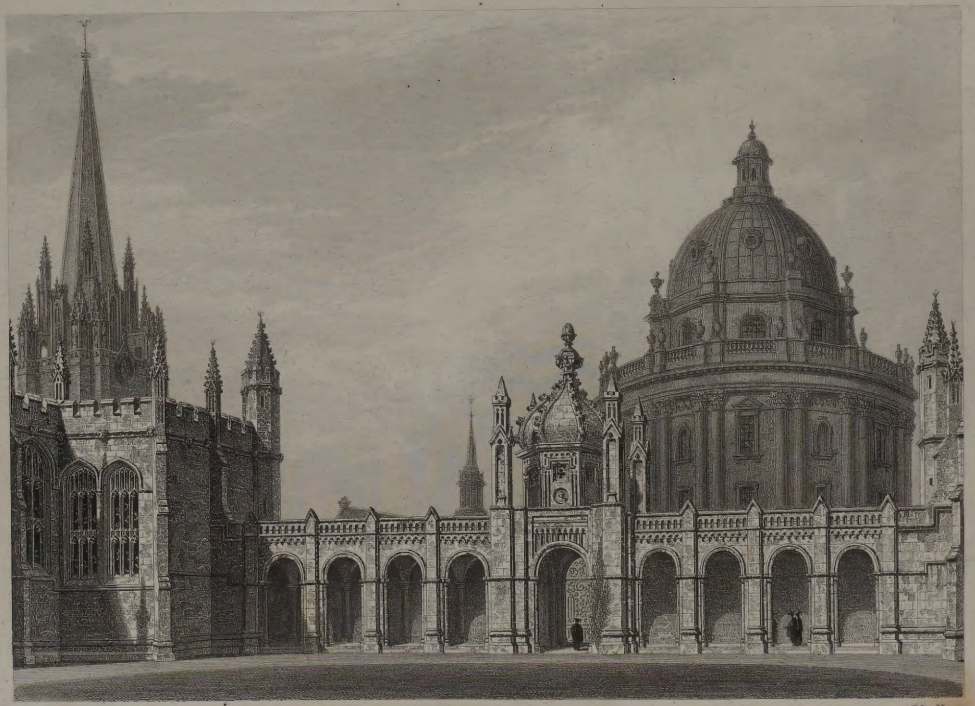
Little addition appears to have been made to this department of natural history till near the year 1800; when a cabinet of minerals was purchased by the university from sir Christopher Pegge, who had for some time previous delivered private lectures in mineralogy. About this time Dr. Kidd, the first holder of the office of reader in Mineralogy, began the formation of a new collection in Geology; to which Mr. Wm. Conybeare and many others of his pupils contributed. Mr. Henry Drummond also presented, through Dr. Kidd, a series of valuable specimens in mineralogy. Dr. Buckland, who followed Dr. Kidd in this office in 1813, and who became also Reader in Geology in 1818, presented his entire geological collection to the university in 1823. In 1824, the Rev. John Josias Conybeare bequeathed to the university his large collection of specimens in geology and mineralogy, together with the cabinets containing them, and fifty pounds for the purchase of additional specimens in mineralogy.

The collection having now become much too large to be contained in the room allotted to it in the Museum, and the room itself insufficient as a lecture room, in 1832 the western portion of the middle and upper stories of the Clarendon was assigned by the university to re-

[e] Dr. Plot gave his whole collection of fossils to the Museum in 1691; to which Mr. Llwyd added his in 1708.

ceive the collections in geology and mineralogy; thus affording ample space for the exhibition of these interesting, and in many respects unique collections. Their most remarkable contents consist of fossil bones and other organic remains of a former world. In the same year Richard Simmons esq. M. D. of Ch. Ch. presented to the university a most beautiful and choice collection of simple minerals, for which appropriate cases have been provided in the north-west room of the middle story of the Clarendon. The convenient space and handsome provision now made by the university for the exhibition of specimens, combined with the advancement of science, must operate as a strong motive to the continual addition of similar benefactions.

THE LOWER ROOM OF THE MUSEUM.



F. Mackenzie. J. Le Keux.

THE RADCLIFFE LIBRARY.

FROM ALL SOULS COLLEGE.

Published March 1.1835, by J. H. Parker, Oxford. C. Tilt Fleet St. London & J. Le Keux Harmondsworth.

MEMORIALS OF OXFORD.

THE VESTIBULE.

The Radcliffe Library.

THE founder of this Library, Dr. John Radcliffe, was a person of so extraordinary a character, as well as a distinguished benefactor to the university, that a more extended notice of him may be required in this work than has been hitherto given in any similar publication.

He was born at Wakefield, in Yorkshire[a], in the year

[a] His family was ancient and respectable. One sir Richard Radclyffe, knight, occurs among the great persons who attended king Richard III. when he visited Oxford, and Waynflete's new foundation, in 1483. See Wood's Annals, I. 639. Two of the name were members of University college in 1607, and one became principal of Brasenose in 1614. There was also a *physician* of this name, Dr. Richard Radclyffe, who was principal of St. Alban hall; in memory of whom there is a brass plate affixed to the wall in the Lady chapel

1650; and, having acquired a competent knowledge of the learned languages at a school in his native town, he was admitted a member of University college at the age of fifteen. Here he remained till he took his bachelor's degree in Arts in the year 1669; but despairing of a fellowship, though senior scholar, he then removed to Lincoln college, where he obtained one. Having in view the medical profession, he applied himself with great assiduity and success to the study of botany, chemistry, anatomy, and other necessary departments of science: and having proceeded from the degree of Master of Arts in 1672 to that of Bachelor of Medicine three years afterwards, according to the statutable provisions of that day, he commenced his practice as a licentiate in Oxford.

Though our young physician was by no means deficient in classical attainments, or knowledge of his profession, yet he is represented by his biographers as having 'recommended himself more by ready wit and vivacity than by any extraordinary acquisitions in learning.' This opinion has been strengthened by the following anecdote. Living in habits of intimacy with Dr. Bathurst, then president of Trinity and dean of Wells, the latter, visiting him at his rooms, inquired of him on some occasion where his library was? Upon which the physician, pointing to a few phials, a skeleton, and a herbal, exclaimed with emphasis, 'There, sir, is Radcliffe's library[b].' In

of St. Peter's church in the East, where he was buried in the year 1599. Whether Dr. A. Radcliffe, the munificent canon of Christ Church, was of the same family, does not appear.

[b] Dr. Bathurst had himself taken his degrees in Medicine, and practised successfully during the usurpation. Many of his Latin treatises on medical and philosophical subjects have been printed in his Life by Mr. Warton. He was an early member of the Royal Society, and a distinguished ornament of the university.

1682 he took his doctor's degree in medicine, and went out a grand compounder: an important ceremony in those times, and for a century afterwards, being accompanied with much expensive pomp and solemnity; all the members of the college walking in procession with the candidate, himself bareheaded, to the convocation house.

Having previously relinquished his fellowship in accordance with the statutes of his college, which require all the fellows after a certain time to enter into holy orders, he continued in lodgings about two years after this period, increasing daily in fame, wealth, and reputation. His successful treatment of lady Spencer at Yarnton, the seat of her husband, sir Thomas Spencer, contributed not a little to his advancement in his profession[c]. At length, in 1684, he settled in London, fixing his residence in Bow-street, Covent-garden; and so rapidly did he rise in public estimation, that Mr. Dandridge, his apothecary, calculated his receipts on an average at twenty guineas a day, before he had been a year in town. But, though honoured by the court, and caressed by the nobility, who sought his conversation as much as they admired his skill, he on all occasions displayed an independence of mind and character, which neither flattery could corrupt, nor faction circumvent. The then celebrated master of University college, Obadiah Walker, his fellow-collegian, was in vain employed to influence his religious principles, with a view to advance the desperate cause of king James the Second. The answer of Dr.

[c] This lady, after three years of hopeless suffering, under the hands of two other physicians, was restored in three weeks by Dr. Radcliffe; and she lived to see her grandchildren's children. V. Radcliffe's Memoirs, p. 9; Biograph. Brit. 3452.

Radcliffe was firm and dignified: 'that being bred up a protestant at Wakefield, and having continued such at Oxford, where he had no relish for absurdities, he saw no reason to change his principles, and turn papist in London[d].'

As no man acquired wealth more rapidly, so no man sustained the loss of it with greater composure. The failure of a speculation, in which he had embarked ten thousand pounds, being announced to him at the Bull-head tavern in Claremarket, where he was enjoying the company of some persons of the highest rank, he took his glass cheerfully as before; observing only, 'that he had nothing to do but to go up 250 pair of stairs to make himself whole again.' Indeed on one occasion, a short time before, he had received a fee of one thousand guineas from queen Mary: and in the campaign of 1695 his majesty, king William, having sent for him from England, rewarded his services by an order on the treasury for twelve hundred pounds. The earl of Albemarle also, whom he had restored in a week, after he had languished many months, from a dangerous fever caught in the camp after the capture of Namur, presented him with a diamond ring, and four hundred guineas. Yet the unreserved candour and ingenuousness with which Dr.

[d] See the letters which passed between them in the Biographia Britannica; art. Radcliffe, pp. 3453–4; Memoirs, p. 17, and seqq.

In 1708 he presented Mr. Bingham, fellow of University college, the learned author of the Antiquities of the Christian Church, to the rectory of Headbourne Worthy, in Hampshire; though a sermon of his had been censured at a meeting of the heads of houses a few years before. The perpetual advowson of this living he afterwards bequeathed to trustees for the benefit of University college for ever; so that a member of that society should always be presented to it on every vacancy. Mr. Bingham was born at Wakefield.

P. Nicholson

J. Le Keux

CAT STREET.

Published Aug.st 1836 by J. H. Parker Oxford. & 377 Strand London & J. & J. J. Deighton Cambridge.

Radcliffe treated his patients, of whatever rank or degree, and the singularity of his predictions with regard to the exact time of their departure from the world, will probably excite a smile in the present day.

On the king's return from Loo in Holland, in 1697, after the treaty of peace at Ryswick, his majesty, falling sick at his palace in Kensington, sent for Dr. Radcliffe; who, after a long conference and consultation respecting the nature of his disorder, addressed him thus: 'If your majesty will adhere to my prescriptions, it may be in my power to lengthen out your life for three or four years; but beyond that period nothing in physic can protract it: for the juices of your stomach are all vitiated, your whole mass of blood is corrupted, and your nutriment for the most part turns to water.' Though the king was so much restored by following the advice and prescriptions given him, that he was able again to visit his palace at Loo in Holland, where he remained about two years, yet his life was not protracted beyond the time predicted. He saw the physician but once after his return: when, extending his swoln ankles, whilst the rest of his body was almost reduced to a skeleton, 'Doctor,' said he, 'what think you of these?' 'Why truly,' replied the physician, 'I would not have your majesty's two legs for your three kingdoms.' This freedom, though not apparently noticed at the time, alienated the royal patient from his physician; and, though he followed his prescriptions, he would not admit him again into his presence.

Many other such extraordinary assertions and predictions are recorded. The young duke of Glocester was taken ill at Windsor during the celebration of his birthday. Dr. Radcliffe was consulted; who, upon the first

sight of the royal youth, frankly told the princess of Denmark, that he would die by a certain hour the very next day. And so he did. In 1703, when the marquis of Blandford, only son of the duke of Marlborough, was ill of the smallpox at Cambridge, the duchess went in person to the doctor's house in London to request his assistance: who, being made acquainted with the details of the case, and its treatment by the Cambridge physicians, said, 'Madam, I should only put you to a great expense to no purpose: for you have nothing to do for his lordship now but to send down an undertaker to superintend his funeral.' No sooner had the duchess returned to her apartments in St. James's palace, than a messenger arrived from Cambridge with the mournful intelligence of his death. In like manner a message being sent from the duke of Beaufort, who was ill at his seat at Badminton, requesting the immediate attendance of Dr. Radcliffe, he told the messenger, 'that there was no manner of occasion for his presence, since the duke, his master, had died at a certain hour, which he named, on the preceding day.' This the servant on his return found to be strictly true. So implicit a confidence did the duchess of Beaufort entertain of the doctor's skill, that in her 85th year she declared it to be her firm persuasion, that 'whilst he lived she should never die.'

In 1708 prince George of Denmark, being reduced to the last extremity by a dropsical disorder, had been sent to Bath by the court physicians for the cure of it. At length the queen, laying aside her personal objections to Dr. Radcliffe, who had formerly offended her majesty, when indisposed, by saying she had only 'the vapours,' sent for him in one of her own royal carriages, to consult him respecting the treatment and disorder of his

royal highness. Radcliffe assured her majesty, 'that however common it might be for surgeons to apply caustics in cases of burning or scalding, it was irregular in physicians to attempt to expel watery humours by draughts of the same element[e].' He promised however 'to prescribe for him such anodynes as should give him an easier passage out of this world; since he had been so tampered with, that nothing in the art of physic could keep his royal highness alive more than six days.' Accordingly, to the inexpressible grief of the queen, and of the whole court, he expired on the sixth day following.

In 1714 he predicted his own death with the same confidence with which he spoke concerning that of others. To several of his friends he declared, at the tavern before mentioned, to which they usually resorted, 'It was high time for him to retire from the world, to make his will, and to set his house in order: for he had notices within which told him, that his abode in this world could not be twelve months longer[f].' He died at his house at

[e] It appears from this remark, that Dr. Radcliffe was no convert to the doctrine of homœopathy, which has been recently revived.

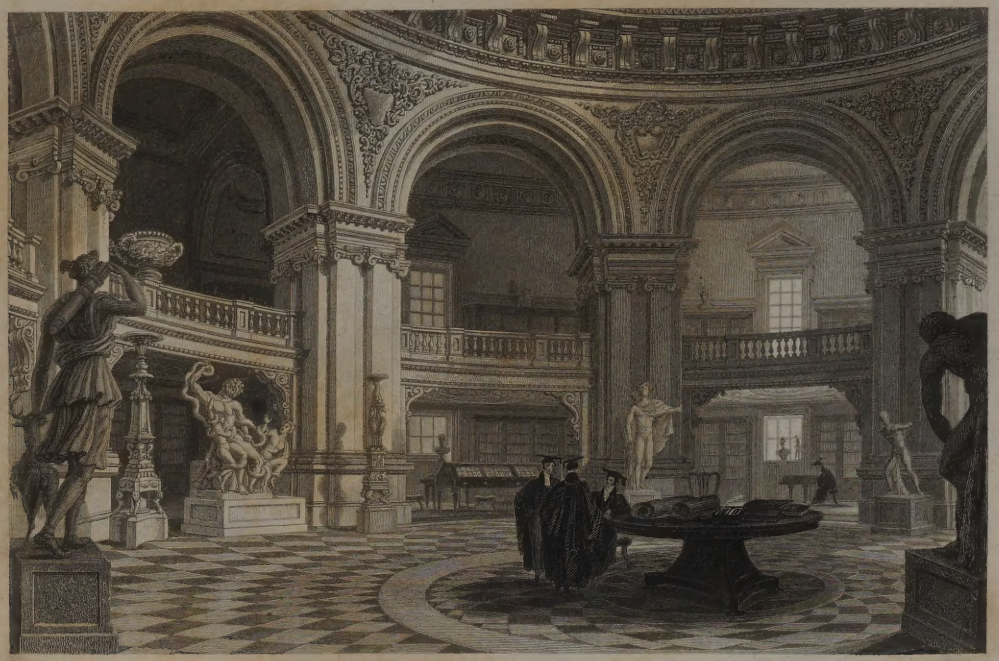
[f] His prediction of the death of old Tyson of Hackney, a noted usurer, who was said to have left behind him 300,000*l.* was accompanied with an awful announcement, to which we can barely allude. He told him, that he had nothing to do but to go home and die; that he had raised an immense estate out of the spoils of the public, and the tears of orphans and widows; and that he would be a dead man in less than ten days. The disconsolate usurer returned to his house, quite confounded with the sentence which had been passed upon him, and he died in eight days. See Memoirs, p. 76, &c.; Biogr. Br. p. 3463. These memoirs, though originally published only one year after the death of Dr. Radcliffe, in which also the writer is said to have been assisted by Dr. Mead, must be received now, like most other memoirs of that period, with some grains of allowance. See note, p. 9.

Carshalton[g] on the first of November following: being then in his sixty-fifth year; and, though afflicted with the gout, he was so little suspected by others to be in a dangerous state, that some even of his friends censured him for his negligence in not attending queen Anne in her last moments. Some persons went so far as to send him anonymous letters on this account, threatening to assassinate him if he ever ventured to come again to London. Such base conduct, and the want of friends in his retirement, may have accelerated an event, which he felt to be at no great distance[h]. His body was conveyed to Oxford from Carshalton; and interred with great solemnity in St. Mary's church, near the north-west corner of the present organ-gallery[i].

[g] This house, said by Lysons to have been built by Dr. Radcliffe, was after his death purchased for 7663*l.* by sir John Fellows, one of the governors of the south sea company; who rebuilt or enlarged it. The present mansion, the property of Theodore Broadhead, esq. in 1792, when Lysons printed his 'Environs of London,' was once the residence of lord chancellor Hardwicke. See Lyson's Environs, &c. I. 135-6. The celebrated Dr. Mead succeeded not only to the greater part of the practice of his friend Dr. Radcliffe, but to his town residence in Bloomsbury square. This house was afterwards inhabited by sir John Rushout.

[h] During the last two years of his life he sat in parliament for the town of Buckingham: but he escaped the fate of Dr. Freind, who sat afterwards for a Cornish borough, and having defended bishop Atterbury with some warmth he was sent a prisoner to the Tower. Of Dr. Radcliffe's speeches in the house only two have been preserved: in one of which, on the bill for preventing schism, he displayed the same spirit of prediction, and the same attachment to the institutions of his country, for which he was so remarkable through life. See Appendix to his Life, pp. 93—5.

[i] See the vice-chancellor's programma on the occasion in the Register of the University, Biographia Britannica, pp. 3465-6, and Life, by Pittis, ed. 1736, p. 83. The following inscription was placed on his coffin, engraven on a brass plate: 'John Radcliffe, Dr. in Physick, dyed Nov. ye 1st, 1714, in the 65th year of his Age.'



F. Mackenzie. J. Le Keux.

THE RADCLIFFE LIBRARY.

Published 2d March 1835, by J. H. Parker, Oxford: C. Tilt, Fleet St. London: & J. Le Keux, Harmondsworth.

Such was Dr. Radcliffe: whose wit[k] and talents were long remembered by his contemporaries; and whose benefactions will extend to the latest posterity[l]. To University college, where he was first admitted, he gave 1100*l.* for increasing their exhibitions and for general repairs: 5000*l.* more he left in his will for their new buildings: besides 600*l.* per annum for ever to found two travelling fellowships; and other benefactions. The painted window at the east end of the chapel there was one of his first donations to that society. In 1706 he gave 200*l.* to be divided equally between the new church of

[k] His wit was sometimes overmatched; as in the following instance. When sir Godfrey Kneller threatened to stop up a garden door between their respective premises, which had been opened for the doctor's convenience, the latter having sent a facetious message by his servant, 'that the knight might do what he thought fit with respect to the door, provided he refrained from *painting* it,' sir Godfrey in perfect good humour replied by the same messenger, 'that he could take any thing from him but *physic*.'

[l] We are necessarily compelled, by the limits prescribed to us in a work of this kind, to confine our attention principally to the character of Dr. Radcliffe as a physician, and as a public benefactor in this place. Those who wish to see more of the peculiarities of his composition, and the various incidents of a life passed chiefly in the heart of the metropolis, may consult his 'Memoirs,' printed at London in 1715, the year after his death, one of the most amusing works of that period. From this work, chiefly, aided by the authors of the Life of king William, of queen Anne, of the duchess of Marlborough, of Betterton the tragedian, Burnet's 'History of his own Time,' and other contemporary memoirs, the editors of the Biographia Britannica and Mr. Chalmers derived their materials for the Life of Dr. Radcliffe. This entertaining work, compiled by William Pittis of New College, assisted by information from Dr. Mead, went through four editions. To the last, in 1736, the author added his name, with an appendix of letters, speeches in parliament, &c.; and the altered title of 'Dr. Radcliffe's Life and Letters.' To this work also the author of the 'Gold-headed Cane' is much indebted; who has exhibited the striking points of Dr. Radcliffe's life and character in a very lively manner.

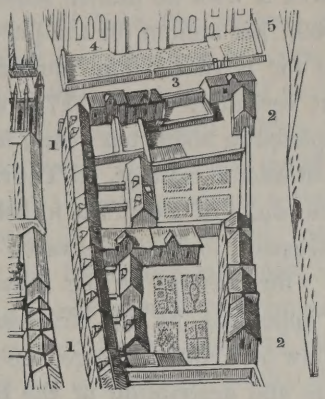
All Saints and Peckwater quadrangle. He also gave the elegant little bronze figure of Mercury, which formerly stood in the centre of the reservoir in the great quadrangle at Christ Church. But his two greatest works are, the foundation of the Library and Infirmary called after his name. The latter has been already mentioned in our account of St. Giles's parish, in which it is situated[m]. The former we have now to notice.

The LIBRARY. This splendid edifice, so lofty and so conspicuous from every point of view, is so well known, and has been so often described in detail, that a minute examination of its constituent parts will not be expected in such a work as the present. It will be best seen in the engravings annexed to our pages[n]. Placed in the centre of a large square, and that square almost in the centre of the city, and surrounded on all sides with public buildings, it has many advantages of situation: yet some persons, who are never satisfied, express their regret, that it is not on the top of a hill; others have asserted, that it spoils the square; not considering, that the square itself was called into existence for the sake of the library: the whole space having been before occu-

[m] How much the Observatory is also indebted to the munificence of Dr. Radcliffe through the liberality of his trustees, has been already stated in our account of that establishment. The Asylum on Heddington hill at the end of Cheney lane, has also received so much assistance from the same source, that the committee have given it the name of the 'Radcliffe Asylum.'

[n] For further particulars we must refer our readers to a work printed in folio, 1747, by James Gibbs, F. R. S. the architect of the building. It is entitled 'Bibliotheca Radcliviana:' or, A short description of the Radcliffe Library at Oxford; containing its several plans, parts, sections, elevations, and ornaments, in twenty-three copper-plates, neatly engraved, with an explication to each plate.

pied by narrow lanes and ruinous tenements[o], which were purchased with the money left by Dr. Radcliffe[p].



GROUND PLAN ENLARGED FROM LOGGAN.

1. Cat street. 2. School street. 3. St. Mary's lane. 4. St. Mary's church. 5. St. Mary's entry.

[o] A curious ground plan of the site of these tenements is preserved in the Radcliffe library, which has been engraved by Mr. Skelton in his 'Oxonia.' In the same work, pl. 54, is a repetition of the engraving in the Oxford Almanack of 1751 by G. Vertue, the last that was engraved for the university by that excellent artist. It represents a section of the interior of the library, with a miniature elevation of the exterior suspended above from the centre of the oval border, or frame-work. In the area is represented the ceremony which took place three years before, of delivering the keys to Alma Mater on the opening of the library. In the following year James Green engraved a general view of the Radcliffe square; having the library in the centre of the foreground, part of the south front of the schools, &c. on one side, St. Mary's noble tower and spire on the other, with a part of Brasenose library and chapel, and a house which is now the Conservative newspaper office, in the background.

[p] 'Whatever may be thought,' observes Mr. Chalmers, 'of the general design, or of the situation, in which however the artist (*architect?*) had no choice, he took care that the interior, and very highly finished ornaments, should be executed by the first artists the age afforded; and although it must be confessed the *square in which*

The whole sum bequeathed for this purpose, and for the erection of the building, was 40,000*l.*; in addition to which he endowed it with an annual stipend of 150*l.* for the librarian, 100*l.* per annum for the purchase of books, and 100*l.* more for repairs. The foundation stone was laid with great ceremony on the 17th of May, 1737; and, being completed in about ten years, it was at length opened, in a most solemn manner, on Thursday, April 13, 1749; when the duke of Beaufort, in behalf of himself and the other trustees, formally delivered the key to the vice-chancellor 'for the use of the university [q].' The first librarian appointed by the trustees was Francis Wise, B. D. fellow of Trinity college, the learned editor of the catalogue and description of the Bodleian coins; folio, 1750; and other works [r].

This structure was at first called the 'Physic Library,' being intended principally for books and manuscripts relating to the science of Physic; comprehending, as that term was then understood, anatomy, botany, surgery, and natural philosophy. Accordingly, in compliance with a resolution of the trustees, the purchase of books is still confined chiefly to works connected with Natural His-

it stands was complete without it, there are none of the perspective views of Oxford in which this building would not be missed, and none in which it is not a very striking feature.'

[q] Many members of the university, with the consent of the trustees and librarian, have enriched the interior by donations of statues, busts, and other embellishments. Sir Roger Newdigate, bart., gave the ancient candelabra found among the ruins of the emperor Hadrian's palace at Tivoli. The casts from the antique were procured at the expense of the Messrs. Duncans of New College.

[r] See in Pointer's 'Oxoniensis Academia,' Lond. 1749, a contemporary account of the ceremony of opening the library, &c. See also Gent. Mag. vol. XIX. pp. 165, 459; and vol. LI. p. 75.

tory and Medicine. It may be proper to state here, that Dr. Radcliffe's first design was, in 1712-13, to make an addition to the Bodleian Library, by building a room ninety feet in length from the western window of the Selden part of that structure, and of course to correspond with it in height. The proportions of such a room, combined with those of the present edifice, may be easily imagined. Fortunately there were many technical and other impediments to such a scheme; though his friend Dr. Atterbury calls it a 'noble design:' and so indeed it was, as far as Dr. Radcliffe's generous intentions were concerned. But it can scarcely be supposed, as the editors of the Biographia Britannica have stated, that 'the Doctor changed his purpose as to the site,' merely because the society of Exeter college 'insisted upon such terms as evinced their great unwillingness to lose the benefit of a good part of their garden,' which must have been taken away by the purchase of the ground, on which the building was to be erected. In fact, Dr. Atterbury says expressly, that Exeter college had consented, upon condition that not only a library should be built for them underneath, but some lodgings also, which it was necessary to pull down to make room for the new design, should be rebuilt. That there was nothing unreasonable in this stipulation, appears from the fact stated by the same authority last quoted[8], that the University thought of furnishing that part of the charge: and Dr. Radcliffe readily proffered to furnish the rest; promising, after he had perfected the building, to give 100*l.* for ever to furnish it with books. This latter provision remains in his will, dated Sept. 13, 1714; with this revised in-

[8] Atterbury's Correspondence, letter cviii.

struction to his executors: 'to pay 40,000*l.* in ten years, at 4000*l.* per annum; the first payment to be made after the decease of his two sisters; for building a library in Oxon, and purchasing the houses between St. Mary's and the Schools in Cat-street; where he intended the library to stand[t].' From these expressions we may infer, that Dr. Radcliffe merely contemplated a structure, which should extend along Cat-street, in a line nearly parallel with All Souls, and on the opposite side of that street. The spirited and magnificent design of forming a new square, by demolishing all the irregular and decayed tenements in this large space, and placing the Library in the centre, must have been suggested afterwards: and great praise is due to those who contributed to the accomplishment of this design, by surrendering their different interests in the tenements thus demolished. For on the ground which now forms the Radcliffe square, and in the immediate neighbourhood, were formerly many remains of ancient halls; and the schools hereabout were so numerous, that the name of 'School street' was given to the avenue which led from the High street by the west end of St. Mary's church to a street called 'Beaufront street,' where the proscholium of the divinity school now stands. Even so late as the 8th of queen Elizabeth a piece of garden ground and a stable, in St. Mary's parish, between the divinity school and Brasenose college lane, demised by indenture to Exeter college by the society of Balliol, is described as abutting on the east end upon certain schools belonging to those two colleges[u].

[t] Biographia Britannica, vol. V. p. 3466.

[u] The site is now occupied by the gardens of Exeter college. See the vignette at the end, p. 16.

This description leads us at once to determine the site of those ancient schools, which we find denominated the schools of old Balliol hall, Exeter college schools, Beaufront schools, &c. These latter occur so early as 1291; and in 1310 were given to Balliol college, or hall, to find a chaplain to celebrate divine service daily in St. Catharine's chapel there. Hence they assumed the name of Balliol college schools. Exeter college schools were situated some time near those of Balliol in School-street; and two of them at least were given to the society so early as 1332; about which time most of the present site of Exeter college was purchased and enclosed. They had also schools in Cornwall lane, and in St. Mildred's lane; the former being used as lecture-rooms till the time of Henry VIII. They were situated between the north end of School-street and the old entrance gate of the college, in front of which the city arms are visible over the modern rustic-work. Next to these, 'in or near Beaufront,' were 'Stodeley schools,' belonging to the nuns of Studley priory; one of which, called sometimes Pylle school, was given to that priory about the year 1276 by Wm. Pylle, of Oxford. Near the same spot were Little Beaufront schools, Cruste schools, Corner schools, Stockwell hall, so called from Philip de Stockwell, who lived in the reign of Henry III; and on the east side, in Cat-street, the Halls of Tingewick, St. Catharine, and St. Thomas, &c., taken into the premises of All Souls' college. Between Cat-street and School-street was a narrow lane, or avenue, 'venella,' on the north side of St. Mary's churchyard, in which stood Godstow hall, Pylet hall, &c. To all or most of these halls were schools attached; particularly to the latter: which being ruinous about the year 1439, Thomas Hokenorton, then abbot of Oseney, rebuilt

the whole of stone in one tenement; and, the windows being probably large, or filled with a superior kind of glass, it acquired the distinguishing appellation of Glazen hall. The halls and schools situated where Brasenose college now stands, will be found noticed in our account of that house. On the opposite side stood Ensham schools; belonging to Ensham abbey, and yielding an annual rent of four marks, 6th Edw. I. This property, known for many ages under the name of Staple hall, after the dissolution of the abbeys in the reign of Henry VIII., came into the possession of Lincoln college, who in 1556 leased it to the society of Brasenose. The whole space to the south of these premises was occupied by a coachhouse and stables, a large brewery, &c.: northward stood one of the many tenements called Black hall, considered by Wood to be the same with Beloe or Belew school, 'Schola de Belewe,' or, 'de bella aqua,' from a person of that name who possessed it. The owner of this hall was anciently bound to pay annually 'three pounds of wax' to the church of St. Cross at Holywell.

THE LIBRARY FROM EXETER COLLEGE GARDEN.

F. Mackenzie. J. Le Keux.

THE BOTANIC GARDEN.

Published March 1st 1836 by J.H. Parker Oxford, C. Tilt, Fleet St. London, & J. Le Keux, Harmondsworth.

MEMORIALS OF OXFORD.

THE DANBY GATE; 1632.

The Botanic Garden.

THOUGH lectures appear to have been delivered, degrees conferred, and professors appointed in medicine from an early period, we possess no record of any endowment for the purpose having been bestowed prior to the year 1524; when Thomas Lynacre, D. M. of this university, and sometime fellow of All Souls' college, left certain lands in fee in the county of Kent, for the maintenance of two physic lectures in Oxford and Cambridge[a].

[a] This distinguished individual, after acquiring a great reputation for classical learning, went to study natural philosophy and physic at Rome, under Hermolaus Barbarus; and on his return home, he first settled as a physician in Oxford, where he was incorporated M. D. and delivered public lectures on physic. But it was not long before he was commanded to court by Henry VII, who appointed him preceptor and physician to his son, prince Arthur. He was also physician to that king, as likewise to his successor Henry VIII. At a later period

In consequence of this endowment Thomas Moscroffe, or Musgrave, master of arts, and licentiate in physic, was appointed to the chair of medicine in Oxford, and held it for several years. The lands, however, were afterwards made over to Merton college, by a composition dated 3 Ed. VI, on condition that this society should depute some one to expound and read public lectures, out of the books of Galen and Hippocrates, in the college refectory, to all such members of the university as might please to attend.

Thus the readership founded by Lynacre ceased to be regarded as his endowment very soon after its foundation; and it is to king Edward VI. that the establishment of a public professorship of medicine is generally attributed: John Warner, doctor of physic, and warden of All Souls', being the individual then selected to fill the chair.

It does not appear, however, that any royal endowment was attached to this appointment until the reign of James I. who gave the mastership of Ewelme in Oxfordshire to the reader of this lecture and his successors, and thus became the real and substantial founder of the regius professorship of medicine.

From that time until the present, the professorships

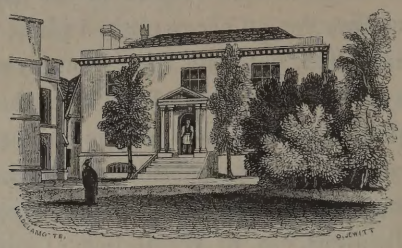
of his life he entered into holy orders, and obtained several valuable preferments. He died of the stone 20 Oct. 1524. His views for the advancement of medical science were not limited to the endowments already mentioned. Observing how much the practice of physic had been in the hands of illiterate monks and empirics, he projected the foundation of the college of Physicians, by which it was intended to vest in proper hands the power of granting licenses to practise physic. Lynacre held the office of president for seven years, and received the members at his own house in Knight-Rider street; the site of which still belongs to the college, although after the fire of 1666 the meetings were held in Warwick lane. See his Life by D. N. Johnson, M.D. edited by Mr. Graves, London, 8°. 1835.

connected with medical science have gone on progressively increasing in number, in proportion to the growing sense entertained with respect to the greater range of study necessary for an accomplished physician.

In the year 1623, not long after Harvey's celebrated discovery as to the circulation of the blood had been announced, a provision was made for the encouragement of the most essential of these subsidiary branches of medical education, in the endowment of an anatomical lecture by R. Tomlyns, esq. of Westminster; directing that a reader of anatomy should be appointed, who, out of the funds left for the endowment, should employ a skilful surgeon or dissector to make public demonstrations of the human subject at certain stated times. The first person appointed as reader was Dr. Clayton, regius professor of physic, and master of Pembroke college, who delivered his inaugural lecture in May, 1624.

Till within a recent period the anatomical lectures were delivered in one of the apartments underneath the Museum, now occupied by the professor of Chemistry; but in the year 1750 Matthew Lee, D. M. of Christ Church, founded a readership for anatomy, and erected a distinct building for the delivery of lectures within the precincts of that college. It is in this building, now known by the name of the Anatomy school, that the lectures are at present delivered: besides which, the room affords space enough for an interesting collection of preparations illustrative of human and comparative anatomy, which are ranged round the walls in neat glass cases. There are also several beautiful wax models of the human body, executed at Florence, which have from time to time been purchased by the dean and chapter of Christ Church, in pursuance of the intentions and views

of the founder of the Anatomy school. Below the lecture-room are spacious apartments for carrying on dissections.



THE ANATOMY SCHOOL.

Inferior only in the scale of importance to a knowledge of the structure of the human frame, is an acquaintance with the nature and properties of those substances which operate upon it, and control its diseased actions. These being for the most part derived either from the vegetable or mineral kingdoms, constitute the subject matter of two distinct sciences—botany and chemistry; both of which, therefore, are indispensable requisites to the medical art, and constitute important parts of professional education. Accordingly, during the course of the same century which witnessed the endowment of the first anatomical chair, provision was likewise made for the more effectual encouragement both of botany and of chemistry in the university [b].

[b] This century may perhaps be regarded as the golden age of Oxford science: it was during the course of it that a few individuals resident in the university, by their scientific meetings, laid the foundation of the Royal society; it was then that Wallis, Seth Ward, Bathurst, and Wren flourished; that Mellington the Savilian professor suggested to Grew the idea of the sexuality of plants; and that Dr. Wilkins prosecuted at Wadham college his ingenious researches and speculations on various branches of physics. See Evelyn's Memoirs, for an account of a visit paid by him to the latter.

of the founder of the Anatomy school. Below the lecture-room are spacious apartments for carrying on dissections.

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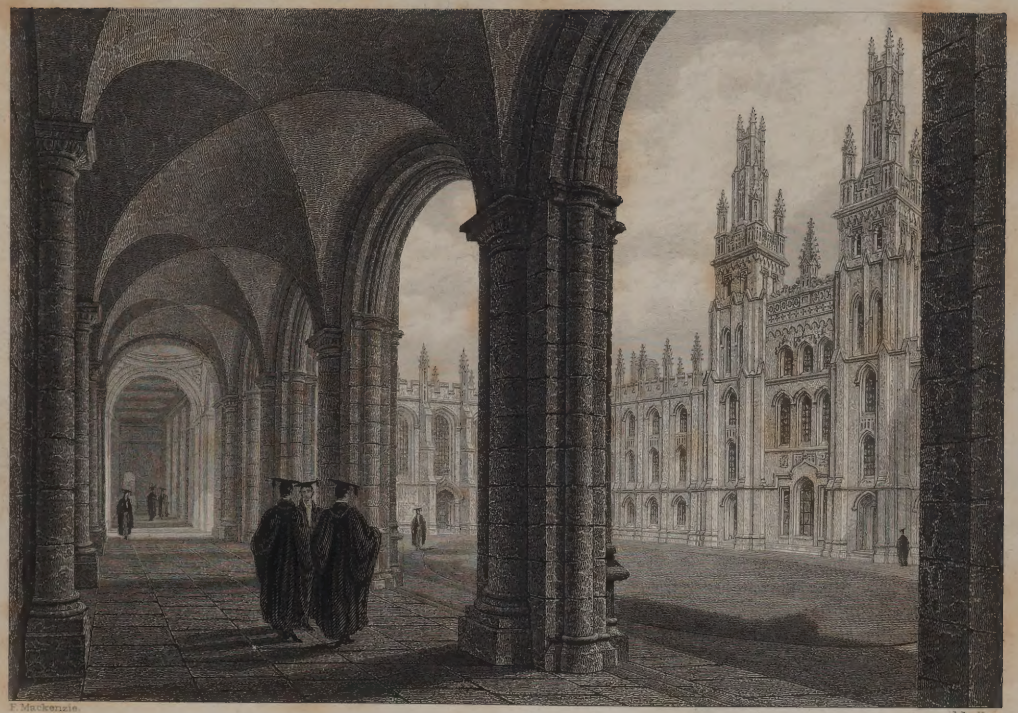
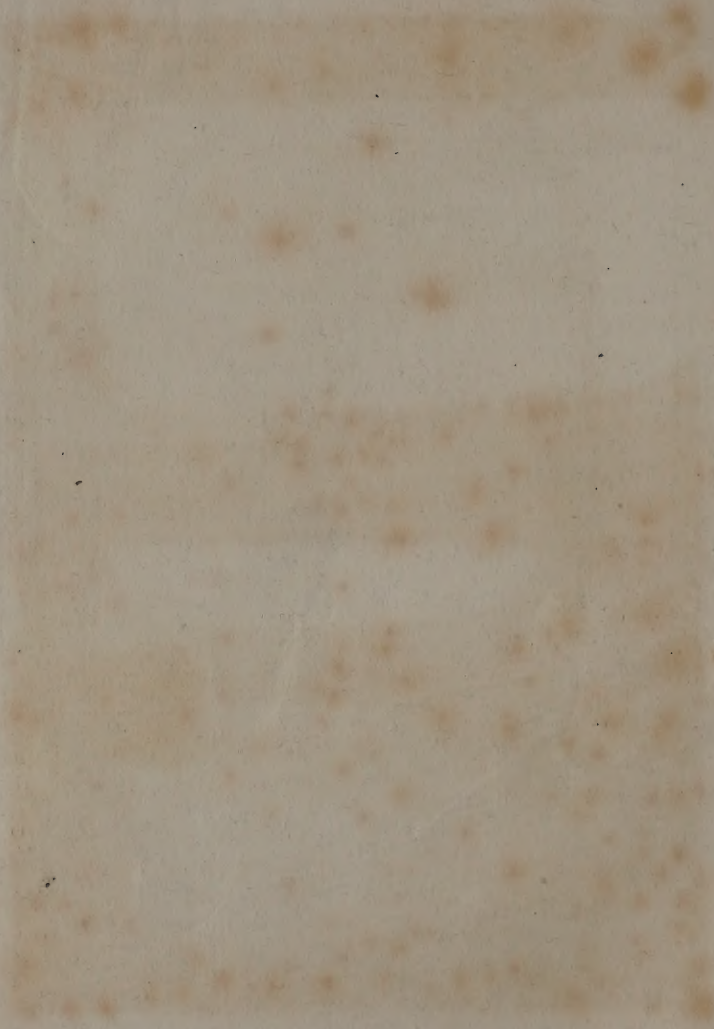


F. Mackenzie. J.L.e Keux

THE CLOISTER &c. OF ALL SOULS COLLEGE.

Published Oct.r 1834, by J. H. Parker Oxford. C. Tait. Fleet St.t London. & J. Le Keux. Harmondsworth.



The first of these studies, to which alone we shall now confine our attention, obtained a footing through the liberality of Henry lord Danvers, baron of Dauntsey in the county of Wilts, and earl of Danby in Yorkshire, at one time a gentleman-commoner of Christ Church; who, in the early part of the 17th century, with a view to the general improvement of learning, and especially of the faculty of medicine, having selected a spot without the east gate of Oxford, which was then meadow ground, but had in ancient times been a cemetery for the Jews, presented the university with 250*l.* to enable them to obtain immediate possession of it. With this sum they bought out the lease of the person then in occupation, and afterwards obtained one from the society of Magdalene college; to whom, as the proprietors, they agreed to pay an annual rent of 40 shillings. The level of the ground was then raised considerably, by the introduction of fresh soil, in order to prevent its being overflowed by the contiguous river: and on the day of St. James the Apostle, A. D. 1632, the vice-chancellor and other dignitaries went in procession from St. Mary's church to the garden, where Mr. Edward Dawson, a physician of Broadgates' hall, spoke an elegant oration; which being done, Dr. Clayton, the king's professor of medicine, spoke another. After this, the vice-chancellor laid the first stone of the rustic archway, according to the ancient custom, and concluded the ceremony by a short address. The greater part of the ground had probably been enclosed before with the present substantial wall of hewn stone, 14 feet high; which, as well as the archway, was finished under the directions of Inigo Jones. The expense of the whole outlay is said to have exceeded 5000*l.* The two figures of king Charles I. and II. which

stand on the right and left of the said archway, were put up at a later period, being defrayed out of the fine paid by Antony à Wood for a libel on the earl of Clarendon.

After the completion of the walls and archway, in 1633, the garden is said to have been stocked with various medicinal plants; and John Tradescant the elder, who has been already noticed under the head of the Ashmolean museum, was appointed gardener[c]. It is not certain, however, that this individual ever actually accepted the office, or took up his abode at Oxford in consequence; at any rate his services there were of short duration, since he died in the year 1638, within six years from the establishment of the garden.

The commencement of the civil wars put a stop to the munificent designs of lord Danby towards the Oxford garden; and his death, which took place 20 Jan. 1644–5, prevented his ever witnessing their entire execution. In his will, however, he appointed certain persons to settle, by legal conveyance to the university, the parsonage or rectory of Kirkdale in Yorkshire for the use of the said garden; and his brother, sir John Danvers, endeavoured to effect such an arrangement, that the garden should be kept in order, and the professor and gardener receive a stipend out of the revenues of the said estate[d]. Owing,

[c] From an engraving in Loggan's Oxford, published in 1675, it appears that there was at that time one conservatory for tender plants, 60 feet long. It probably stood fronting the High street, to the eastward of the Danby gateway. It was covered with tiles, and seems to have admitted little light.

[d] In 1654, when Evelyn visited the garden, he says the sensitive plant was shewn as a great wonder. There grew canes, olive trees, rhubarb, &c., but no extraordinary curiosities, except very good fruit, which the ladies tasted. In 1664 Evelyn again visited the garden, where were two large locust trees, and as many platani, and some rare plants under the culture of the elder Bobart.

nevertheless, to the unsettled state of the times, and the want of sufficient funds from the estate, which turned out less valuable than had been calculated upon, no step was taken towards the settlement of a professor till the year 1669, when Dr. Robert Morison[e] made application to the university for the appointment; upon which it was agreed, that an annual stipend of 40*l.* should be allowed him on condition of his reading lectures at certain times, most convenient to himself, during the spring and autumn. Accordingly he delivered his inaugural lecture in the school of medicine on the 2d of September, 1670; and on the 5th of that month removed to the Physic garden, where he lectured three times a week to a considerable audience. The following spring and autumn his course of lectures was repeated, and occasionally afterwards, for in 1675 Evelyn attended one of them. He was diverted, however, from continuing them regularly by the prosecution of his great work, the 'Historia Plantarum Oxoniensis,' of which he first published a specimen under the title of 'Plantarum umbelliferarum Distributio nova,' and afterwards a volume of the same work, entitled 'Plantarum Hist. Univ. Oxon. pars secunda,' containing a description of herbaceous plants only;

[e] This learned botanist was a native of Aberdeen, where he received his education. Espousing the royal cause during the troubles, he received a dangerous wound at the battle of the Brigg near Aberdeen; and upon his recovery took refuge in Paris, where he applied himself assiduously to the study of anatomy, botany, and zoology. In 1648 he took the degree of doctor of physic at Angers. From his skill in botany he was appointed superintendent of the duke of Orleans' fine garden at Blois, which he held till the death of the duke in 1660. Being known to Charles II, he was invited to England by that monarch, and appointed king's physician and professor of botany, with an appointment of 200*l.* and a house, as superintendent of the royal gardens. He died in London, 9 Nov. 1683, aged 63.

that on trees and shrubs, which was to constitute the first part of the work, having never been printed.

During the period that the professorship was held by Morison, Jacob Bobart the elder, a native of Brunswick, was gardener or supervisor[f]. He published a Catalogue of the plants in the garden in the year 1648, reprinted in 1658, from which it appears that about 2000 species were then cultivated, 600 of which were English.

On the death of Morison in 1683, the son of this Bobart, also named Jacob, succeeded to the chair of botany, and continued the labours of his predecessor by the publication of the third part of the Oxford History of Plants. He died in 1719, in the 79th year of his age[g].

Of his two immediate successors, Edwyn Sandys, D.M. of Wadham college, and Gilbert Trowe, D.M. of Merton, nothing particular is recorded; but in the year 1728 the whole establishment was placed upon an improved footing, and its permanence more effectually secured, by the munificence of Dr. William Sherard. This distinguished patron of botanical science was born in 1658, and after passing through Merchant Taylors' school, entered at St. John's college, Oxford, in 1677, and afterward became a fellow of that society. He travelled much on the continent; chiefly occupied in collecting plants, and in forming

[f] There is a small whole length of him in the frontispiece to Vertumnus, a poem on the garden; 8°. Oxford, 1713. In this he is dressed in a long vest, with a beard; which, it is said, on feast-days he used to have tagged with silver. He died 4 Feb. 1679–80, at the age of 81, leaving two sons, Jacob who became professor, and Tillemont who was also employed in the Physic garden. The present respectable bedel of the university is a lineal descendant of this patriarch of botany. He was buried in the church-yard of St. Peter's in the East, where there is a small tablet to his memory against the south wall. See Peshall's Monumental Inscriptions, p. 14.

[g] There is a portrait of him in the Oxford Almanack for 1719.

connexions with the most celebrated foreign botanists of the day; such as Herman, Boerhaave, and Tournefort. He is said to have been the author of a book published under the name of Samuel Wharton, entitled 'Schola Botanica;' being a catalogue of the plants exhibited by Tournefort to his botanical class in Paris for several years, during a part of which Sherard attended his lectures. He also edited Herman's 'Paradisus Batavus.' Being appointed consul at Smyrna, he availed himself of the opportunities which his residence in the East afforded him of collecting the plants of Natolia and Greece, of which the dried specimens still exist in his herbarium preserved at the Botanic garden. On his return he met with the celebrated Dillenius, whom he induced to accompany him to England in 1721; and in the year 1726 he commenced his designs for the advancement of botany at Oxford, by giving 500*l.* towards enlarging the conservatory, and by presenting a great number of curious plants and a library of botanical works to the same establishment. He likewise made over to the Physic garden an herbarium, which rendered Oxford, in the eyes of Linnæus, preeminent among the universities of Europe for its botanical treasures; and which sir James Smith, only fifteen years ago, pronounced as perhaps, excepting that of the learned Swede in his own possession, the most ample, authentic, and valuable botanical record in the world. In it may be seen original specimens from most of the writers of that day, named by themselves, accompanied by remarks, or by queries scarcely less instructive. He died two years afterwards, and by his will bequeathed 3000*l.* to provide a salary for the professor of botany, on condition that the university should supply the annual sum of 150*l.* towards the

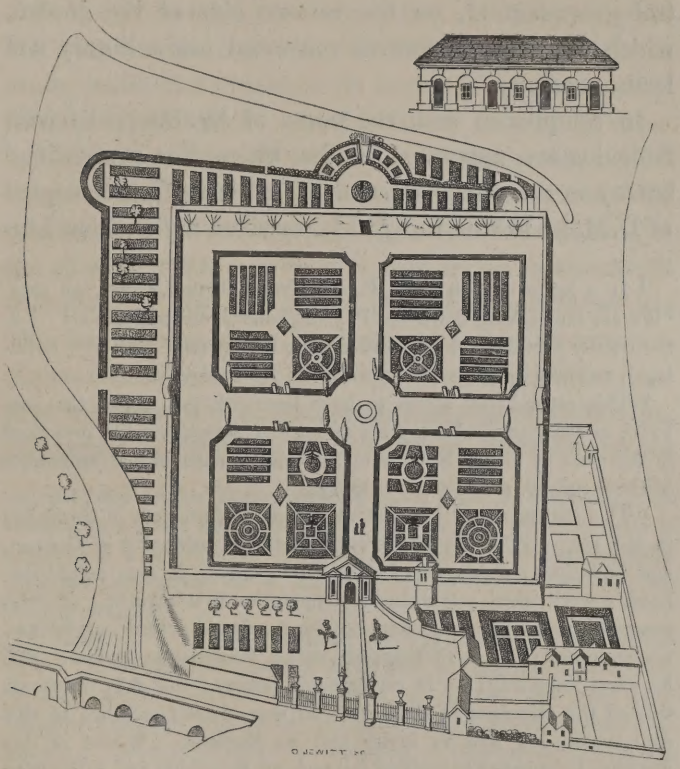
maintenance of the garden, and that Dr. Dillenius should be chosen the first professor.

The university accordingly made an arrangement with Sherard's executors, by which these terms were accepted, and by which the appointment to the professorship, after the death of Dillenius, was vested in the college of Physicians in London.

The garden, as it existed in Sherard's time, was divided into quarters by a double yew hedge, which extended from the principal gateway to the opposite extremity, and by a similar one, which ran from east to west, intersecting the former at right angles. Between these hedges the public were allowed to walk, and there was at one time a thoroughfare into Christ Church meadow through the centre. But the square plots of ground enclosed within these hedges, which contained the plants, appear to have been less easy of access, and to have been kept under lock and key. Of these hedges, the one which extended across the garden from east to west was cut down in the time of the younger Dr. Sibthorpe; whilst the other, which divided the garden longitudinally, remained standing till the year 1834; when, having lost much of its former beauty, and being in the way of the new arrangements, it shared the same fate. The two large yews which in Bobart's time were clipped, according to the taste of the day, and the fashion of Dutch gardening, so as to represent two giants guarding the entrance to the garden on the side of the meadow, have been suffered to remain [h].

[h] These trees seem to have been the subjects of much rival wit in the university; for an account of which, see Gough's British Topography, vol. II. p. 138. No less than three ballads appertaining to them are preserved in Wood's collection in the Ashmolean library.

As to the existing conservatories, with the exception of the stove-house erected in 1834, there are allusions in the letters of Dillenius to their erection by James Sherard, the brother of the consul. Fronting the street, however, and occupying much of the ground which now



PLAN OF THE GARDEN, FROM LOGGAN; 1675.

is included in the approach to the London bridge, was a long building, which appears to have been erected soon after the first establishment of the garden as a conservatory; but which, probably when the new greenhouses were built, was converted into a receptacle for the herba-

rium and library, and into a residence for the professor. This building having been pulled down about the year 1790[i] by order of the street commissioners, to improve the approach to the bridge, such of its contents as were thought of most value were removed into the great central green-house[k], on the eastern side of the garden, which was soon afterwards converted into a library and lecture-room.

In compliance with the terms of Dr. Sherard's will, Dillenius was appointed the first Sherardian professor of botany in the year 1728, and was admitted to the degree of D.M. in 1735[l]. In 1736 he received a visit from Lin-

[i] In a letter of this date, Feb. 4, from Daniel Prince, he says, 'We are now taking down the Physic garden house and library; i. e. the botany professor's house and botanic library (tho' both new buildings), to make room for the approach to the bridge from the town.'

[k] This green-house seems to have been enlarged about the year 1715, in order to receive a great number of curious exotics presented in that year by bishop Robinson; sometime a member and benefactor of Oriel college, as already mentioned.

[l] This distinguished botanist was born at Darmstadt in Germany, in the year 1687. He was educated at the university of Geissen, and published a catalogue of the plants growing in that neighbourhood, a work which established his reputation as a botanist. He also communicated various memoirs to the Academia naturæ curiosorum, which appear in their Transactions, called Miscellanea Curiosa. But his great knowledge lay in cryptogamic botany; and this, which attracted the attention of Sherard, who was himself attached to this department, led him to invite him to England. Whilst in this country, he engaged himself in the task of describing and delineating the rare plants contained in the garden at Eltham near London, belonging to Dr. James Sherard, the brother of his patron, who was likewise an enthusiastic botanist. This splendid work appeared in 1732, in two vols. folio, under the name of Hortus Elthamensis, and was pronounced by Linnæus one of the most complete works of its kind ever published. He also brought out a new edition of Ray's Synopsis, with sundry additions. But his most important work was the Historia Muscorum, which he brought to completion at Oxford,

næus, whose new system of botany he did not choose to countenance[m]. Their intercourse, however, at Oxford produced a mutual respect for each other's acquirements, and led to a correspondence which seems to have continued till the death of the Oxford professor in 1747. Dillenius was of a retired disposition, and recluse habits. His corpulency, combined with his close application to study, probably brought on an attack of apoplexy, which terminated his existence in the sixtieth year of his age.

Of his successor, the elder Dr. Sibthorpe, of Magdalene college, little notice is preserved; but his son, John Sibthorpe, D.M. of Lincoln college, who was appointed to the chair in 1784, will be ever memorable in the annals of botany for his zeal in the pursuit of science, no less than for his munificent designs to promote its advancement. The former feeling led him to undertake two journeys into Greece and the Archipelago, the first in 1784, the second in 1794[n]. On his death, in 1795, he evinced

and published at the Sheldon press in 1741. All the subjects of this volume were drawn and etched with his own hand; and, in spite of subsequent improvements, the labour, accuracy, and discrimination displayed throughout the whole work will prevent it from ever becoming obsolete.

[m] Linnæus, it is said, surprised Dillenius in company with his patron Dr. Sherard, and having apologized in Latin for his inability to speak English, threw Dillenius off his guard, who said carelessly to Sherard, 'This is the young man who would confound all botany.' Linnæus gathered the meaning of this speech by tracing the verb *confound* to its Latin root; and he soon took an opportunity of retaliating, by slightly alluding to it while he was demonstrating in the garden some of the new genera to which Dillenius had particularly objected. He quickly constrained the Oxford professor to form a high opinion of his abilities, but could never succeed in making him a proselyte.

[n] In the first of these journeys he engaged at Vienna, as draughtsman, the celebrated Ferdinand Bauer, with whom he visited Constantinople, Crete, Cyprus, and other islands of the Grecian Archipelago.

his anxiety for the future advancement of his favourite science by making over to the Botanic garden all his drawings, books of natural history, and collections: and still more by bequeathing a freehold estate, for the purpose, first, of publishing his Flora Græca in 10 folio volumes, with 100 coloured plates in each; and afterwards of endowing a professorship of rural economy in his own university. Of the splendid work here mentioned a part only has appeared in the interval since his death; and the slowness with which the publication proceeds has reduced the subscribers, who never were numerous, to a very small amount. The work, however, will remain a splendid monument of the science and zeal of its author, though its value and interest would have doubtless been enhanced, had circumstances allowed of its more rapid completion.

Dr. Sibthorpe was succeeded by the late learned professor, Dr. George Williams of C. C. C., who continued in

He also travelled over a considerable part of the Morea, and did not return to England till the autumn of 1787. The value of the services which Dr. Sibthorp had rendered to botany during these travels was generally appreciated, and the Crown in consideration of them made an addition to his stipend as professor in 1793. This augmentation, consisting of 100*l.* per annum, exclusive of the same sum granted towards the keeping up of the garden, was then charged on the privy purse; but has since been annually voted by parliament. Dr. Sibthorp, convinced that much remained to be done, for the completion of his great undertaking, set out a second time, in 1794, for the same country, attended by Francis Borone as botanical assistant, and accompanied by his friend Mr. Hawkins. With them he visited Bithynia, mount Olympus, the Troad, the Isles of Lemnos and Imbros, mount Athos, Attica, Patras, and Zante. Of the following year they spent two months in the Morea; after which Dr. Sibthorp parted from his companion, Mr. Hawkins, and returned to England by Otranto. A severe cold caught during the voyage to that port proved the exciting cause of a pulmonary affection; which, after his return to England, carried him off in the February of the subsequent year.

possession till his death in 1834; when the present professor, C. G. B. Daubeny, M. D. fellow of Magdalene college, was unanimously chosen.

Considerable improvements have been lately made by means of a liberal subscription raised in the university, augmented by a contribution from the trustees of the Radcliffe fund, to which so many other public institutions in Oxford are indebted, and a donation of 500*l.* consols from the late professor of botany [o].

The Sherardian herbarium, with other collections of older date, now occupies the whole of the lower apartment fitted up as a lecture-room in 1795; whilst the books, presented by Sherard, Sibthorpe, and others, together with the more modern accessions to the herbarium, are secured from damp and injury by being placed in two spacious rooms on the first floor of a building just erected behind it, where they can be readily consulted. A new stove-house for tropical plants has been also added; and two basons for aquatic plants have been constructed in the garden: the part designed for the illustration of the Linnæan system of botany constitutes all to the east of the central walk; and that appropriated for the elucidation of the Natural Method includes all the space westward. The ground beyond the walls is confined chiefly to plants employed in medicine, agriculture, and the arts; except a part set aside for experiments connected with vegetable physiology or practical gardening. There is likewise a Salicetum near the river, containing almost every species of British willow.

The most defective parts of the present establishment are the conservatories; which being constructed a century

[o] In Hooker's Botanical Miscellany, vol. I. and in the Philosophical Magazine for 1829, is an interesting account by Dr. Schultes of Landshut in Bavaria of his visit to the Botanic garden in 1826.

ago, probably after the model of those which Sherard may have seen existing under a more southern and brighter sky, admit too little light to suit the atmosphere of England. It is to be hoped, however, so much having been already done to improve the garden in other respects, that the time is not far distant when these will also be placed more on a par with those of other universities.

Were the funds of the garden sufficiently augmented, its situation affords singular facilities for making it one of the finest in Europe. A direct communication with the walks round Christ Church meadow might be effected, with the concurrence of that society; planting there all the varieties of hardy trees and shrubs, so as to make that the Arboretum of the garden: and an additional aquarium, with a collection of marsh plants, might be formed out of the small island on the south side of Magdalene bridge. This would also be a great improvement to the principal entrance into Oxford, and the effect from the bridge would be very striking.

NEW BUILDING; 1835.

ST PETER'S CHURCH, FROM THE S.E.

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MEMORIALS OF OXFORD.

THE CRYPT.

St. Peter's in the East.

THE Church of St. Peter in the East, which stands at no great distance from the site of the ancient east-gate [a] of the city, lays claim to a higher antiquity than almost any other ecclesiastical edifice in England. The Crypt, commonly called Grymbald's Crypt, after all the

[a] An old distich, quoted by Leonard Hutten and others, thus refers to the proximity of four parish churches in Oxford to the four principal gates: two dedicated to St. Michael, and two to St. Peter:

"Invigilat portæ australi, boreæque, Michael;
Exortum Solem Petrus regit, atque cadentem."

controversies and criticisms to which the name of Grymbald [b] has given birth, still continues an interesting object of curiosity to antiquaries and architects; nor is there any reason to doubt, that it was built before the Norman conquest. In its general style, it very much resembles the vaulted crypt of Winchester Cathedral; which is attributed to St. Ethelwold; and the oldest part of Canterbury crypt, which is undoubtedly earlier than the time of Lanfranc. It contains two rows of short pillars, ranging from east to west, and two of square pilasters attached to the main walls. Each row consists of four pillars, the capitals of which are well executed,

[b] In one copy of the Life of Alfred, written by his contemporary and friend Asser of St. David's, it is stated that a quarrel arose in Oxford between the old scholars of the University and St. Grymbald, whom Alfred had invited hither from France. In consequence of which Grymbald left Oxford, and giving up his intention of being buried in the crypt, which he had built "subter cancellum ecclesiæ D. Petri in Oriente," retired to the newly-founded abbey of Hide in Winchester: "ad monasterium Wintoniense ab Alfredo recens fundatum proficiscebatur:" (Twyne, p. 144.) "quam quidem ecclesiam," (D. Petri in Oxonia,) continues Asser, "idem Grymboldus extruxerat ab ipso fundamento de saxo summa cura perpolito." The authenticity of this passage has been much disputed; but it is of importance, even if considered as an early interpolation of the original work of Asser, whose death is recorded in the year 910 in the Saxon Chronicle. All the MSS. seem to be now lost. Spelman, Usher, and Stillingfleet argue against the passage; Twyne, Wood, Hearne, and Wise support it. (Vide Wise's Asser, pp. 177; Turner's Hist. Anglo-Sax.; Twyne's Apol.; Hearne's Spelman's Alfred, p. 144, 177; Joh. Glaston, vol. II. p. 648.) It is also to be observed, that from Twyne's commentary on the passage it appears there were copies of Asser extant, containing an account of the building of St. Peter's Church by St. Grymbald, and its consecration by the bishop of Dorchester. Wood in his MSS. says, "Asser Menevens. in Camden's copie corrupted. Compare it with the Saxon copy." (Hearne's Lib. Nig. Scacc. p. 573.)

two being ornamented with some curious sculptures[c]. The vaulting is composed of semicircular arches of hewn stone; which, according to Hearne, was brought from an old quarry, disused since Henry IIId's reign, behind South Hinksey[d]. The present entrance to the crypt is through a large buttress, which though of great age is obviously much more recent than the chancel. There are traces of two other entrances; one at the west end, and another on the north side; from the latter was a winding staircase, leading into the chancel above. Over one of the doors, which are square-headed, is a transom-stone, having a semicircle carved upon it. At the east end there appears to have been an altar. The crypt is thirty-six feet long, twenty feet ten inches wide, and nine feet high.

[c] "In the vault, which is large, y^{t} St. Grymbald made, and in which he designed to have been buried, is a dragon upon one of y^{e} pillars. A dragon used to be put upon the banners in the times of the Danes and Saxons." (Hearne's MS. Coll. vol. XXXIX. p. 179.) The Britons had before used a similar device. The present crypt has been generally considered by those antiquaries who have paid the greatest attention to the subject to be the original one here mentioned, and coeval with the foundation of St. Neot's hall, the earliest on record, which was situated on the north side of the church; and there was discovered not long since a vaulted subterraneous passage, leading into the crypt in this direction, the doorway of which still remains.

[d] "And now coming again to Chilswell it is very observable, that on the east and south-east side of it are great remains of a very ancient quarry of stone. Indeed it is the oldest quarry about Oxford. It is commonly called Hinxey Quarry. It was from hence the stones were fetched with which the Church of St. Peter in the East, Oxford, (which is the oldest church in that place now standing,) was built by St. Grymbald in the reign of Alfred the Great. Building in stone at that time was not common in England, for which reason people used to come hundreds of miles to see this stone church, and it was commended as a fine piece of work." Hearne, Lib. Nig. p. 570; Langtoft, 604. See also "Discourse on the Stunsfield Pavement," Leland's Itin. vol. VIII. §. 3; Archæologia, vol. I. p. 151.

The CHOIR, or CHANCEL.—Next to the crypt in antiquity must be placed the beautiful choir, which is clearly older than the rich Norman work of St. Cross Hospital near Winchester, built by king Stephen's brother, and therefore must be considered as an early specimen of that peculiar style of architecture which is known by the designation of Norman or Saxon: having prevailed in this country from a period anterior to the conquest, until the establishment of the pointed arch about the end of the reign of Henry II. There are several grounds for supposing that the choir of this church ought to be assigned to a very early period of this style. Under Edward the Confessor, Oxford was a large and flourishing university. The king himself was born and lived at Islip; his father lived at Headington [e]; and this church, as well as that of St. Frideswide, for many years before and after the conquest, was publicly used by the university. In Domesday book it is registered as a church of great consequence; the "benefice" was given to Robert D'Oilgi by the Conqueror, and two hides of land in Holywell were assigned for the support of the church [f].

[e] Some remains of the Saxon palace at Headington were standing so recently as the beginning of the present century, in a close called "Court Close," near the house of Mrs. Finch, commonly known by the name of the Rookery. Some curious old plate had also been dug up on this spot some years previously.

[f] "Idē. Ro. habet. XLII. dom. hospitatas. in Oxeneford. tā intra murū quā extra. Ex his. XVI. reddt. geld. & gablū. Aliæ neutrū reddt quia præ paup'tate n' possunt & VIII. mansiones h't vastas. & XXX. acs pti. juxta murū. & molin. X. solid. Tot. valet III. lib. & pro I.manerio ten. cū beneficio St. PETRI." Domesd. F. 158. 1.

"Æccla St. Petri de Oxenef. ten. de Rob. II. hid' in Haliwelle. Tra. I. car. Ibi. ē. una. car' & dim' & XXIII hoēs Hortulos h'ntes. Ibi. XL. ac' pti. Valuit XX Sol. Modo. XL. solid. H. t'ra non geldavit. nec ullū debit. reddid'." Fol. 158. 2. a.

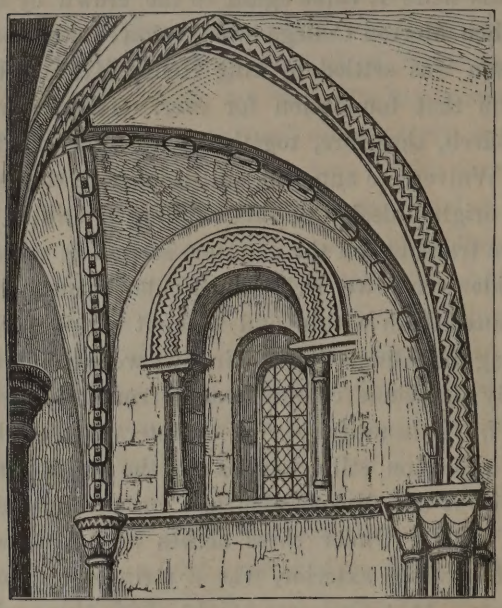
It is observable that the word *beneficium* does not appear in Domes-

From his heirs it came again to the crown by escheat; and when Merton College was endowed, the perpetual advowson was settled by king Henry III. and Bogo de Clare on that foundation for ever. The patronage of this church, therefore, together with that of Holywell and of Wolvercote annexed, still belongs to that society.

The original design of this building is still in a great measure traceable on the exterior, as well as within. On each side were two rich semicircular-headed windows, ornamented both within and without with several rows of zigzag moulding. These windows were connected, and probably the whole chancel was surrounded on the exterior, by a beautiful series of intersected arches; of which a portion still remains on the south wall, and marks of it are discoverable also on the northern and eastern sides. Under these arches and windows, and round the whole exterior, was a string-course of billet moulding. At a moderate height above these windows, but about three or four feet below its present situation, was a rich corbel table[g]. The small round turrets, inclosing winding staircases, which terminate the east end, though recently repaired, rose originally to their present height. They are curious specimens of incipient spires.

day, except in this one place. In Oxford the houses (to the number of more than 700) are called *domus*, i. e. stone-houses, while at Wallingford they are only *hagæ*. Among the churches specified in Domesday there are some mentioned particularly as *ligneæ*. This forms a strong argument that the majority were of stone.

[g] This is clear from several marks. The present situation of the corbel table is considerably higher than the stone groining of the interior. The masonry of the wall is more modern above the old line of the corbel table than below it: and on the north side, a small portion of it, visible in the inside of the Lady chapel, remains in its original situation. The row of quatrefoils has been added.



PART OF THE CHOIR.

The interior of the choir still presents a striking and in some respects an unique specimen of the earlier age of the Saxon or Norman style of building. Two of the four rich semicircular-headed windows still remain. The groined roof is nearly perfect, and the eastern compartment of it is singularly beautiful. The architects of this style seem to have indulged their fancy in the mouldings to a greater extent than those of later date; which is visible in the richer Saxon doorways, as Iffley, Rochester, or St. Margaret's at York; and this cluster of mouldings is perhaps as elegant and tasteful as any we have remaining. On the floor are several pieces of the ancient tile-pavement: though a considerable quantity seems to have been removed within the last few years.

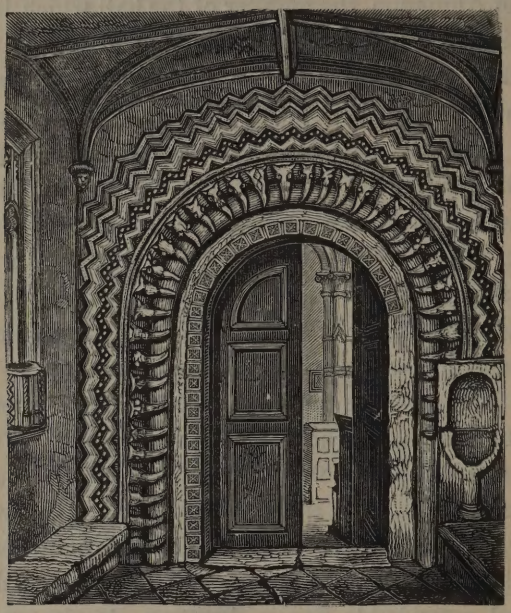
The Lady chapel, which stands at right angles to the north side of the choir, was built about 1240 by St. Edmund of Abingdon, the founder of the hall which is called after his name, and here the scholars of this hall used to celebrate divine service. The delicate lancet-shaped windows which lighted it on the east and west sides are still visible in the wall, though they were blocked up when the other buildings were attached to it. In the north window, which is of far more recent date, being inserted in 1433 by Vincent Wyking vicar of the parish, among other fragments of painted glass, is a symbol of the Trinity; containing in a small compass a summary of the principal points of the Athanasian Creed [h].

The NAVE.—The present nave, which is about two feet wider than the choir, contains specimens of various styles and dates:—a fine tall window of the most elegant proportions, with embattled transoms, and diversified tracery, resembling the south window of the transept at Merton; square-headed windows of more recent date; a rich and remarkable Saxon doorway, deeply set in the wall, and partly hidden by an elegant porch and port-loft, which seem to belong to the reigns of Henry the sixth or seventh; and various windows, most of which, if we may trust to the evidence of their curvatures and mouldings, may be referred to the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries [i]. There is also the mark of the semicircular head of a window observable in the wall, in a singular situation, nearly above but not quite perpendicular to

[h] There is a similar device in one of the windows of the library at Balliol College, and it appears on brasses of the 15th century.

[i] The dates of most of them are ascertained by records still existing, or by the "fenestral inscriptions," preserved in Wood's MSS., painted glass, arms, and other devices.

the Norman doorway, being a little on the western side of it.



THE DOORWAY UNDER THE PORCH.

Internally, the south wall bears a zigzag fillet, which seems to harmonize with that of the choir; and, though partially interrupted, may be traced almost to the western extremity of the church. The west end is terminated by a large and handsome window divided by four munnions, without transoms; which is carried so low as to interfere in some degree with the more ancient and more graceful curve of the door below[k]. The north side of the nave is pierced with three fine arches, less

[k] The mean square-headed door with timber jambs to the north of this, opening into the tower, was made in 1625; when it was thought necessary to break through the wall to ascend to the ringing-loft.

E. Mackenzie. J. Le Roux.

INTERIOR OF St PETER'S CHURCH.

(THE PEWS & SEATS REMOVED)

Published May 1 1833, by J. Parker, Oxford; C. Tilt, Fleet Street, & J. Le Roux, Harmondsworth.

acutely pointed than the arch leading from the choir into the Lady chapel; which rest upon very lofty and graceful clustered columns, of a quadruple design, with foliated capitals. These arches are probably coeval with the construction of the north aisle, or chapel of St. Thomas à Becket, which is lighted by two ramified windows of the earlier part of the fourteenth century; and in the square nook, or chantry, which separates this aisle from the Lady chapel, stood perhaps the "awter of St. Katharine," mentioned in the year 1495.

On the wall of St. Thomas à Becket's aisle was a curious painting, executed in 1621, called Queen Elizabeth's Tomb; which is very frequently mentioned in the records of the church. After being repeatedly "repayred and beautified," it was finally erased and covered with whitewash about twenty years ago. It stood exactly where Simon Parret's monumental tablet is now fixed, containing his epitaph on a brass plate [l].

The Tower of the church, which stands at the north-western angle of the building at the extremity of the north aisle, and very considerably out of the line of the nave and chancel, is a singular structure of very uncertain date [m]. In point of general outline it somewhat resembles at a distance the Castle-tower, which was built

[l] See Peshall's Monumental Inscriptions.

[m] From the appearance of the walls at the western end of the nave, being considerably thicker than the other part, although the whole is massive, it has been thought not improbable that the tower was originally in this situation; and that the upper part only was pulled down, when the present tower was built on the north side of it, and a more flat roof was constructed. From the existence of a small portion of the billet-moulding just beyond the arches on the north side of the nave, and from a window in the east side of the tower, it seems to be clear that the nave is earlier than the tower, and the tower than the aisle of St. Thomas.

by Robert D'Oilgi immediately after the conquest: the upper story being gradually contracted, from the point where the buttresses terminate, to the summit of the parapet. There are several marks, however, which are inconsistent with this date. The buttresses which support the walls, and are undoubtedly part of the original building, are graduated, and of considerably more recent style. The windows of the tower cannot be dated higher than the fourteenth or fifteenth century. The quatrefoils which adorn the parapet, though not exactly similar to those of the choir and porch, resemble them in general effect, and contain like them the keys of St. Peter, and the swords placed saltirewise, which denote St. Paul[n].

It appears probable, that St. Peter's church became in early times, instead of St. Frideswide's, the principal church of the university for quadragesimal sermons. But in the reign of Edward II. it is clear that some change was effected; for about this time a sermon was solemnly appointed by the university, and an indulgence of forty days granted by Burwash, or Burghersh, bishop of Lincoln, to all who should attend it. The Anglo-Saxon practice of preaching in the vernacular tongue was now reviving; and a pulpit is said by Peshall to have been set up in the churchyard, "the church itself being too little at that time." In the days of the Puritans and Arminians, it was customary for the vice-chancellor to preach in St. Peter's on the afternoon of Easter-day; a sermon being preached in the morning in the private chapels of colleges and halls; and the same sermon is said to have been repeated at St. Mary's on the following Sunday. One remarkable sermon of Dr. Abbot, mas-

[n] Five of the bells bear the date of 1700, the other was recast by Abel Rudhall in 1753, and the little bell called "Sanctus," in 1777.

ter of Balliol College and brother of archbishop Abbot, when vice-chancellor in 1614–5, in which he made a furious personal attack upon Laud, because he had asserted that "the presbyterians were as bad as the papists," is recorded by Heylyn [o]. Subsequently, the church being found too small to accommodate the university, about the year 1714 [p] the western gallery was built at the charge for the most part of its members, for the use of masters of arts and bachelors of law. The right hon. Montague, earl of Abingdon, was a great contributor. The Lent afternoon sermons have been discontinued here since the year 1827, when the interior of the university church of St. Mary's, being refitted, was found more convenient. The pulpit, which is of stone, has two entrances; the one being intended for ordinary use; and the other, by a small stone staircase in the pillar behind, was only used by the university preacher. For this inconvenient ar-

[o] Heylyn's Life of Laud, p. 66, 67. Lond. 1668.

[p] The arrangement of the galleries and of the whole interior of this church, made about the end of queen Anne's reign, is as bad and inconvenient as could well be contrived. The beautiful choir and the chapel of the Virgin are completely shut out of the church by the galleries. It is to be hoped that these galleries may now be removed, as they are no longer wanted by the University, and the organ placed at the west end of the church. The chancel has been lately repaired, and the "wainscot of cedar colour" removed. This wainscot, with the communion table of cedar, raised pavement, rails, &c. was introduced in the year 1685; previously to which, in 1673-7, some considerable repairs had been done both within and without, Merton College repairing part of the chancel. About the same time the mean doorway under the window on the south side was opened. In 1626-9 a canopy, or sounding-board, was placed over the pulpit, and a rate was collected for the repairs of the fabric of the church, which was in "great default." Dr. Clarke gave the parish a superb pair of candelabra, copper-gilt, three feet in height. The wall of the churchyard at the north-west end was built in 1635, and that at the south-west in 1668. The latter cost 15*l.* 5*s.* 8*d.* The whole expense of the poor of the parish in 1640 was 8*l.* 10*s.* 4*d.*

rangement there is now no pretence. At the churchyard gate there was for many years a staple remaining, where some person was executed. This is reported to have been in queen Mary's time. Here was also what Peshall calls a "curious rotund font," representing in relief, in stalls, or niches, the twelve apostles; which, after it had rested in its situation here about five hundred years, according to Hearne, was removed a little before his time by the order of a "sacrilegious" churchwarden, and placed at the well on the north side of the church; where, he informs us, he had often seen it[q]. The well is now stopped up, and the figures are gone. Many persons of local distinction and of eminence in the literary world are buried within this church. We may mention Dillenius, one of the first botanists of his day, and Sherardian professor in this University; the Langbaines and Potters; many heads of the colleges and halls in this parish; among them Dr. Josiah Pullen, principal of Magdalene hall, whose name will survive as long as the well known tree planted by his own hand on Headington hill shall continue in existence. In the Lady chapel is a fine altar tomb of Petworth marble to the memory of R. Atkinson, five times mayor of Oxford[r]. There are also several memorials and inscriptions on brasses af-

[q] It has been engraved by Skelton in his Oxonia, among other ancient fonts in Oxford, pl. 152. Of this curious font, most probably the oldest in Oxford, a small fragment only remains, consisting of about one-fourth of the circumference; which was placed a few years since, at the suggestion of Dr. Silver, the second Saxon Professor of St. John's College, in the west window of the porch, where it is still seen. From this fragment it is easy to calculate the size and shape of the whole font. It was a polygon of twelve sides, for the twelve apostles; and measured nearly twelve feet in circumference. The "rotundity" was confined to the interior.

[r] He is represented on a brass plate between his two wives, with their eleven children beneath. He died in 1574.

fixed to the walls. One of these is to the memory of Simon Parret, mentioned in our account of the benefactors of Magdalene college: it records the unusual circumstance of his having been twice proctor of the University. He died in 1584. Pointer has strangely perverted that part of the inscription which relates to his wife. In the churchyard is the tomb of the celebrated antiquary Thomas Hearne, formerly vice-principal of St. Edmund hall. This tomb has been twice restored; once by Dr. R. Rawlinson, the founder of the Anglo-Saxon professorship, and more recently by subscription. Sir R. C. Hoare has also lately requested a brass plate to be affixed at his expense to the walls of the chancel, recording the memorable individual who so faithfully "studied and preserved ANTIQUITIES."

The parish of St. Peter in the East, exclusive of the annexed chapel of St. Cross or Holywell, extends on the east to the river Cherwell, on the north to New college slipe, on the west to Broad street and Cat street, and on the south to Merton fields[s]. Within this space were included a vast number of academical halls[t].

[s] The population of this parish in 1831 was 1126. The valuation of the benefice, according to the taxation-roll of pope Nicholas in 1291, was 40*l.*, including the chapels of "Haliwelle and Wolgarecote." In the Valor of H. VIII. the amount is 51*l.* 2*s.* 1*d.* For it must be remembered, that besides St. Cross, or Holywell church, the chapel of Wolvercote belongs to the mother church of St. Peter. In the year 1413, when large repairs were done to the body and roof of the church, a serious difference arose about the payment, between the parish and the chapelry of Wolvercote. The suit was carried to Rome; and it was at length decided that the chapel was liable for the repairs of the mother church. See Hearne's MSS., vol. CXLIV.

[t] Among these were Nightingale hall and Hare hall, situated on the west side of the lane, since called Coach and Horses lane, near the turning into St. John's street; and in the High street, near the

The streets in this parish are greatly changed since the building of New college; for Torald street seems to have been parallel to Cat street, and to have extended from the corner of Queen's college in High street, past the west end of St. Peter's, and between the ten halls which stood where New college now is, to a postern in the north wall of the town near the present situation of the back gate of that college. The lane also called in different parts of its course Somner's, Exeter, or Cornwell lane, ran just within or under the north wall, from the precincts of the castle on the west to the east gate of the city.

Just on the north side of the east gate, within the

east gate, were Berst hall and Kepeharme hall. A little to the west there was "Le Taberd on the hope," once an academical hall, afterwards an inn; and near to this, opposite to the street leading to St. Peter's church, was a tenement on the site of the present Angel inn, belonging formerly to our Lady's chapel in the same church. It was a place for the reception of clerks, though an inn, and always described as "aula vocat' le Saracen's Head." This appears to have been also the case with many other inns in Oxford. It has been observed that, in the modern sense of the word, inns were formerly less frequent than now, because religious houses entertained strangers. The next tenement to the west was Boster hall, which was purchased by Wayn-flete from the hospital; and with some other halls and tenements converted by him into Magdalene hall formed the nucleus of that splendid foundation, which eventually replaced the hospital itself. A little further to the west was Horsemul lane, now Logic lane, leading from the High street to Alban hall and Merton college. It was so named from a horsemill (molendinum equitium) which stood therein. In this lane was Horsemul hall, which with several other halls formed part of the site of University college. There is also frequent mention in old ledger-books of Drowda hall, Dundamore hall, Willoughby hall, Gutter hall, St. George's and St. Catharine hall, Elm hall, and others, all in this parish; of which notices will be found in various parts of Peshall's edition of Wood's History. See particularly pp. 72, 77, 89, 91, 101—105. and Lib. Parv. S. Frid. passim.

walls, stood an ancient chapel of the brethren of the holy Trinity. This had first been founded outside of the city wall to the south of the east gate, where Trinity hall stood till the time of queen Elizabeth [x]. Near the north-western extremity of St. Peter's parish was a chapel, formed hexagonally out of one of the bastions of the city wall, and supposed to have been dedicated to our Lady St. Catharine. A part of it still remains, at the entrance of New College lane, with an ancient doorway; over which is a mutilated piece of sculpture, probably intended to represent the marriage of St. Catharine. Adjoining to it was Smith-gate, which formed the outlet from Cat street towards the Parks.

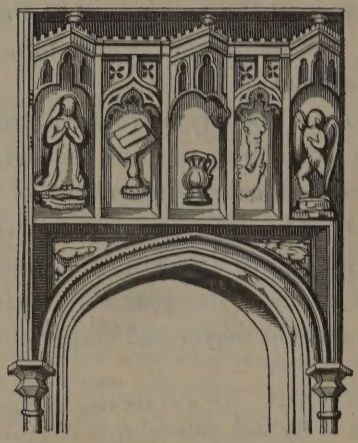
That portion [y] of the city wall which forms the eastern and northern boundaries of New College, is in much better preservation than any other part of the old fortifications of Oxford. It is also constructed of superior masonry. This affords a proof of the exact fulfilment of an agreement made in the year 1389, between William of Wykeham and the mayor and corporation of the City,

[x] Peshall, pp. 74. 295. See also the map by Agas.

[y] The portion of the wall thus ceded to New College commenced at a bastion, called Wyndesore's postern, at the south-east angle of the college garden, behind the house lately occupied by Mr. Gutch in Long Wall; and extended to another postern in St. Helen's passage, adjoining the residence of the Rev. Dr. Bliss, about sixty yards to the east of Smith-gate and our Lady's chapel. Other parts of the old wall may still be traced in this parish, particularly along the terrace in Merton garden, and behind the houses in Coach and Horses lane to the site of the old east gate, which extended across the High street, between the houses now occupied by Mr. Plowman and Mr. Dixon. From this gate, which was removed in 1771, the wall was continued at the back of the present houses to Wyndesore's postern before mentioned. A view of the gate, which had long lost its ancient character, is engraved in Mr. Skelton's Oxonia.

still preserved among their deeds, by which the citizens assigned to the bishop a certain portion of the wall, the said bishop engaging for himself and successors to rebuild it, and keep it in perpetual repair.

This street, which is partially forgotten since the removal of the old houses standing within the last ten years between the public schools and the new buildings of Magdalene hall, received its name from Catharine hall, which anciently stood on the east side of it.



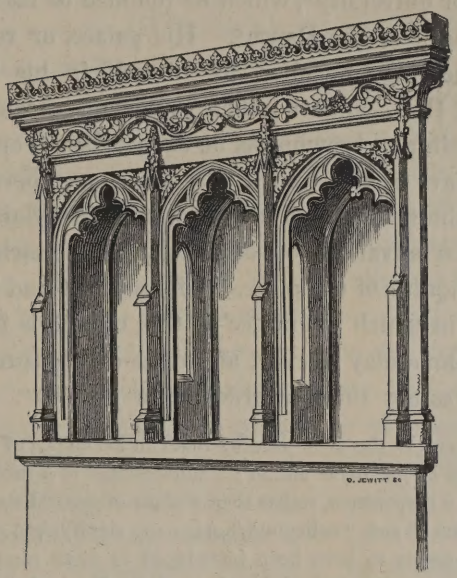
REMAINS OF ST. CATHARINE'S CHAPEL.

F. Mackenzie. J. Le Keux.

TOWER & SPIRE OF SAINT MARY'S CHURCH.

Published June 1, 1833, by J. H. Parker, Oxford, C. Tilt, Fleet Street, & J. Le Keux, Hammersmith.

MEMORIALS OF OXFORD.



SEDILIA IN THE CHANCEL.

St. Mary the Virgin.

THE PARISH of St. Mary the Virgin in the city of Oxford [a] received its denomination, like most other parishes in towns and cities, from the original dedication of its CHURCH; of this therefore we shall first give an account.

[a] This is the legal description, to distinguish this church and parish from that of St. Frideswide, which was also dedicated in honour of the Virgin; but was originally situated without the walls; and in the earliest documents it is called, not St. Frideswide's, but St. Mary's, "prope Tamesim." See our Memorial of Christ Church, p. 11, note [k].

THE OLD CHURCH.—According to the general current of history and tradition, there was a church or chapel on this spot in the time of king Alfred; being positively said to have been built by him, and annexed to the school, college, or university[b], which he founded or restored after the ravages of the Danes[c]. His palace, or royal mansion adjoining it, called by himself in his Laws the "King's Hall," and the then important accommodation of a brasinium, brewhouse, or *brasin-huse*[d], appellations which have been retained ever since, corroborate, under proper limitations and explanations, the claims which have been advanced by our Oxford antiquaries for the high antiquity of the place. The indirect and incidental manner in which the notice of this church is introduced in the Domesday Survey, affords a strong presumption that it was not then regarded as a novelty[e]. The pa-

[b] "Schola" is the term used by Asser in his annals of the life and transactions of his royal master; "universitas" is a medieval term, to express a corporation, rather than a place of general study, "generale studium;" and "collegium," originally signifying a company, or fraternity, seems to have been introduced in more recent times, as a classical term, descriptive of a place of peculiar endowment. The disputes concerning the relative antiquity of our universities, and the constitution of them, have arisen chiefly either from a misapplication of words, or a misconception of their import. The old definition of an university is, "ubi universi congregantur;" and in ancient deeds the corporation of Oxford is styled "the university of the citizens of Oxford." The privilege of granting degrees is quite a distinct thing.

[c] See Wood's Hist. and Antiq. Annals, &c., and Peshall, p. 55.

[d] See the Hundred Rolls, 7 Ed. I, where the earliest instance is found of the corruption of this word, which has been perpetuated at Stamford as well as at Oxford.

[e] "Ad terras quas tenuit Albericus comes pertinet i. æcclesia. et iii. mansiones. Harum ii. jacent ad æcclesiam S. MARIÆ. reddentes xxviii denarios. et tertia jacet ad Bureford. reddens. v. solidos." (Domesday, p. 154.) This last mentioned mansion was Burford hall, situated opposite to the east end of St. Mary's church, afterward

tronage of it appears to have then belonged to the crown, as clearly as that of St. Peter's in the East; the beneficiary interest and emoluments being held of the king, as temporalities, for which a certain rent was reserved according to the estimate of the commissioners.

By permission of the crown, in process of time, a variety of subordinate CHAPELS or CHANTRIES were erected here, as in other places, and endowed by individuals or fraternities with annual stipends to the officiating priests. Many of these have been entirely obliterated by the subsequent alterations and repairs of the edifice, or have assumed different names; but some of them must have existed under the distinct names preserved by Antony à Wood, long after the new church was built on the south side of the old one; as appears from the vice-chancellor's books[f]. It is recorded, for instance, that whenever an ordinary congregation of regents, or of regents and non-regents, commonly called a convocation, was solemnised, it was always in St. Mary's chancel; till the present convocation house was erected; but, when there was a public act, a "generalis inceptio[g]," as it was called, six

called Charlton's inn, and inhabited by students. The site is now occupied by the south-west angle of All Souls' college.

[f] In the parish accounts also for the year 1492, when the new nave is supposed to have been finished, under the title of "costs of carpenters about the church," there is a charge "for removing of Trinity chapel, St. Catharine's chapel, taking down the stone pulpit, closing the quere, (enclosing the choir by erecting a screen, over which was placed afterwards, c. 1507-8, a rood-loft and organ-loft,) removing the setys (seats) in the south side of the church." Even so late as 1533 there is a charge for a mason and labourers for making the *altars*, mending the north side of the church, new trussing the bells, &c.

[g] The word "commencement" is still retained at Cambridge, which corresponds with our commemoration, or encænia.

separate portions of the church and its appendages were assigned to the different faculties and degrees. At the proclamation of the bedel the non-regents only went into the chancel of the new church, the theologists into the congregation-house, (the chancel of the old church [h],) the decretists into St. Ann's chapel, the physicians into St. Catharine's, the jurists into that of St. Thomas, and the proctors with the regents into our Lady's chapel [i]. As

INTERIOR OF THE OLD CONGREGATION-HOUSE.

[h] That this was the chancel of the old church, where the university engines are now kept, or the room over, which also served as a congregation-house, is evident from a singular expression in the statutes, "boreale sacellum," or "the north chapel," (Adam de Brom's,) used in contradistinction to the chancels at the east end; one of which is generally called the congregation-house, and the other is sometimes called "sacellum," and sometimes "capella orientalis." Vid. Corpus Stat. tit. VII. sect. I. §. 2. 11. compared with §. 12.—MDCXXXIV.

[i] "Our Lady's chapel" is that now called Adam de Brom's chapel,

F. Mackenzie. J. Le Keux.

HIGH STREET.

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it appears, therefore, impossible to comprehend the history of this church, which gradually arose out of a variety of separate and distinct chapels, without an examination of the chapels themselves, we have thought it necessary thus briefly to detail such particulars as may serve to throw a light on the subject, and explain our ancient statutes.

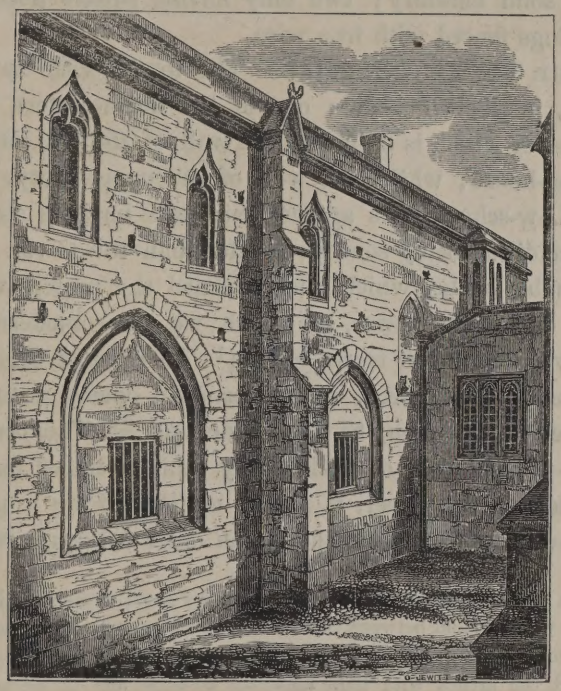
The first in order of time is the ROYAL CHAPEL, now generally known by the title of the Old Congregation-house, which formed the eastern extremity of the old church, and is still an interesting relic. It seems to have been consigned to the use of the university at a very early period; for a deed, executed here in the year 1201, is said to be "given in our house of congregation;" and there is preserved among the patent rolls in the Tower of London a very ample exemplification and confirmation of the original use of this house "for the congregation of all the scholars of the university;" the reason whereof is added, "because it belongs to the Royal college, otherwise called the King's hall." The date of this patent is 19th April, 11 Hen. IV, in which year also, 17th March, a composition was made between the university and Oriel college; the provisions of which are ratified by the au-

whose altar-tomb is there still. Its ancient name was derived from "our Lady of Littlemore;" that Saxon monastery being dedicated in honour of the Virgin Mary and St. Nicholas. Hence, to avoid confusion, this chapel was sometimes distinguished by the name of St. Nicholas; and afterwards, 16 Ric. II, when the lands and tenements belonging to it were given in mortmain to Oriel college, it was assigned to them on condition that they celebrated a morning mass at the altar of St. Thomas. (See Wood ap. Peshall, p. 59.) At the same time also the chapel or chantry of St. Thomas, belonging to the guild or fraternity of St. Thomas the martyr, and probably founded by them, was by them conveyed, with all its lands and revenues, at the request of the chancellor of the university, to Oriel college.

thority of the royal patent above mentioned, whereby the claim of the university to this ancient edifice is settled for ever. Until this important decision took place, the title to this property had been disputed for nearly a century; for bishop Cobham had begun to build a public library over this congregation-house about the year 1320, several years antecedent to the foundation of Oriel college; but in consequence of these unfortunate disputes it was not finished till 1367, nor the books deposited there till the final adjustment of the matter in 1409. Previously to this, not only the books of bishop Cobham's donation, but those of other benefactors, were locked up in chests, or chained upon desks, in the vaulted room below. Here also was kept the "cista academica," or university chest, with five keys, containing the "jocalia," plate, money, &c. together with the Warwick chest, Chichele chests, and others. The latter was augmented by Edmund Audley, bishop of Salisbury, with a donation of 200 marks; and, for the better security of the treasure, books, and muniments, the same great benefactor is said to have strengthened the windows with iron bars.

Though this curious structure has been attributed to "a certain scholar of old time even beyond all memory," there seems every reason to conclude, that this scholar of old time was no less a personage than king Henry I. called for his fine scholarship "Beauclerk." The vaulted roof is of that period; and in his charter of confirmation of St. Frideswide's church and monastery, in 1122, he describes that establishment as looking towards his own chapel, "ad capellam meam spectantem." This structure appears to have extended originally farther westward than at present; one entire

bay being enclosed to make a new staircase and landing-place to the Law school, the panelled ceiling of which is carried through the partition to the tower. The remains of the columns and arches, and the incipient ribs of the groining, are still discernible under the staircase. The whole length of the chapel, including this bay, which is



SOUTH SIDE OF THE OLD CONGREGATION-HOUSE.

now cut off by a partition wall, was not much less than sixty feet. At the upper end on the south side is a benetier[k], or holy water basin, probably inserted when

[k] This will explain the benediction clause in the statute, now obsolete, relating to the public Act, tit. VII. s. I. §. 2.

bishop Cobham's upper story was built, with the small windows of which it in some degree accords. The window also at the east end, under which is now a doorway, is of later introduction. The original windows between the bays on each side have undergone many successive alterations, and are now filled almost entirely with solid masonry; two only having square porthole openings fenced with iron wire.

THE TOWER AND SPIRE.—The tower, with its fine spire, is next in order; one of the north-eastern buttresses of which is built into the wall of the old congregation-house; whilst the wall of the upper story, now the Law-school, rests against this same buttress above; this addition being somewhat later than the tower. Of the noble arches which once adorned the present vestibule under the tower, by which we enter modern St. Mary's, only a few traces remain[1]. In front of this vestibule the lofty arch, which formerly opened into the chapels of St. Ann, St. Catharine, and St. Thomas, the high-pitched roof of which may still be traced on the outside of the tower, is nearly obliterated by a partition-wall, made for the sake of an inner doorway; whilst

[1] A porch might be constructed at no very great expense under the north window, and between the buttresses, to prevent any current of air; in which case the three blank walls within might be entirely removed, the arches with their clustered columns and mouldings restored, and the low platform for the ringers either taken away altogether, or carried considerably higher up into the tower. The Law school would admit of considerable improvement by opening the original east window, which remains nearly entire behind the professor's chair. There are the remains of a bay window on the south side, now in a dilapidated state. Underneath is a small room, where the city engines are kept, between the present chancel and the old congregation-house, with a square-headed window, and a modern door of entrance from Cat street.

INTERIOR OF SAINT MARY'S CHURCH.

Published June 1, 1853, by J. H. Parker, Oxford & C. Wh. Fleet Street & J. Le Keux, Dartmouth

one of the buttresses projects six feet into the undergraduates' gallery.

Nothing can exceed the imposing majesty of this tower, viewed externally. Its simplicity is finely contrasted with an exuberance of decorated pinnacles and niches, the most prominent of which are enriched with statues admirably executed, and nearly as large as life. Each angle is flanked with double buttresses of six stages gradually diminishing, and united above by an open parapet of trefoil work, which surrounds the base of the spire. The panels and gables of the pinnacles are lined with a profusion of pomegranates in honour of Eleanor of Castile [m], the mother of Edward II, in whose reign probably the work was completed under the superintendence of his almoner, Adam de Brom; to whom and to his successors, the provost or rector, and scholars, the king granted the perpetual advowson of this royal church, on condition that they should find FOUR CHAPLAINS to celebrate divine service in the said church every day for ever [n]. For so great an object of a public nature, there can be no doubt that there were great contributions from the university and its members. Adam de Brom's chapel was founded at this period, and indulgences were granted by all the bishops of England for

[m] Queen Eleanor gave the large mansion called "le Oriole," whence Oriel college derives its present appellation, to her chaplain Jacobus de Hispania, or James of Spain, who in the third year of Edward III. conveyed it to the provost and fellows; upon which they removed to it from their first habitation at Tackley's inn, or Bulkeley hall.

[n] This number, "quaternarius numerus," was very commonly provided for the service of the church; for three were considered absolutely necessary, and allowance was made for the casual absence of one from illness or other causes.

the furtherance of the work: but it is not probable that this was for the chapel only.

THE PRESENT CHURCH.—The chancel[o] is said to have been built by Walter Lyhert, Le Harte, or Hart, provost of Oriel and afterwards bishop of Norwich, who also built some parts of that cathedral, and died in 1472. About the beginning of the reign of Henry VII, which was a reign highly favourable to architecture and the arts, the university undertook to build what may be considered almost an entire new church, instead of rebuilding the old one, as it has been generally understood. This being a great work, it was done, as Wood observes, "not solely at their own charges, but mostly by the benefactions of others which they procured[p]." They thus produced a magnificent nave and side

[o] The university have always had the use of this chancel, as of the other parts of the church; and the "morrow-mass priest" continued to be paid for reading the gospel till all masses were abolished. The proctors here administer the usual oath to the new mayor in the presence of the vice-chancellor. Dr. Bathurst, when vice-chancellor, repaired the injury done to the floor during the rebellion, paved it at his own expense with black and white marble, and furnished the altar with a wainscot, carved communion rails, a table, &c. The altar itself, with the enrichments of the choir, had probably been removed before; but on the south side are three beautiful stalls, or *sedilia*, for the priest, deacon, and sub-deacon, in very good preservation.

[p] Ann. I. 645, A. D. 1488. A register was made in 1574 by Richard Lee, clarencieux king at arms, of the coats of arms with which the church was at that time ornamented; amongst others, the arms of Dr. R. Fitzjames, warden of Merton, bishop of Rochester, and subsequently of Chichester and London, one of the chief benefactors to the church; of Dr. Lichfield, archdeacon of Middlesex and Bath, who gave 200*l.* towards the new building; and of many others, well known to have assisted materially in the work. This register therefore may be regarded as equivalent to a list of the royal and noble persons, both domestic and foreign, who were subscribers to

aisles; nearly following the line of the chancel previously constructed. According to the alteration in the mode of building, we find the roof more obtuse; being lowered about eighteen inches in the centre, and having a corresponding elevation of eighteen inches at the sides. The external appearance, nevertheless, is inferior to that of the chancel; though the transition from one style to the other within a few years is very interesting. This is remarkably striking in the windows, buttresses, and parapets. The windows of the clear story, the last in order of time, are in less elegant taste; the principal munnions, which form the sub-arches, being carried too high before they diverge from each other [q]. The difference,

the erection of this edifice, intended expressly to be an university church. Amongst these are to be found Henry VII. who granted forty oaks; Arthur prince of Wales, Henry duke of York, afterwards Henry VIII, Charles king of France, John duke of Lancaster, Stanley earl of Derby, and most of the bishops of this period, beside other dignitaries. Perhaps, however, the most interesting memorial is that of sir Reginald Bray, then high steward of the university, the ARCHITECT of the new church; who seems to have been hitherto too much overlooked. Not only were his arms with all his quarterings impaled with those of his wife, but they were both represented kneeling with their surcoats of arms on their backs; as sir Reginald is seen at Malvern, his native place; where, as well as here, at Windsor, and innumerable other places, he has left splendid memorials of his taste and skill.

[q] In the beautiful organ-screen of Painswick stone, erected in 1827, the windows of the side aisles have been judiciously copied instead of those in the clear story.

The new windows were furnished with painted glass; two in Adam de Brom's chapel being the gift of Alice Walwyn and Dr. Edmund Wylsford. The latter was provost from 1507 to 1516. The arms of John Russel, bishop of Lincoln, chancellor of all England, and first perpetual chancellor of the university, are seen in the spandrils of the doorway under the great west window, those of the university being opposite to his own. He continued chancellor from

in effect, between a single cornice and a double one, is also apparent in the parapets. On the north side, if we may trust to engraved views, there appears to have been originally an open parapet pierced with trefoils, to correspond with those on the parapet of the tower.

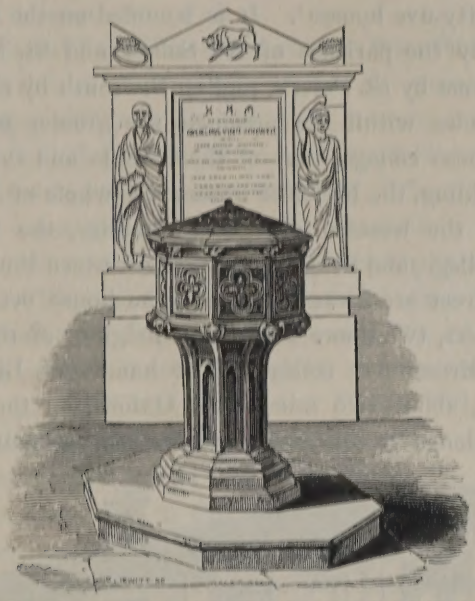
The late restoration of the interior has been accomplished with much taste, and in a manner highly creditable to the youthful architect[r], to whom the task was committed; the removal of the monuments from the pillars, and of the barbarous woodwork which disfigured this elegant building, were great improvements: the present arrangement of the galleries and seats is perhaps the best that the church would admit, while much additional room has been obtained.

1484 to 1494. In the latter year sir Reginald Bray gave forty marks to repair the church; probably towards reducing Adam de Brom's chapel, and the rest of the northern elevation, to an uniformity of appearance. This was completed in 1509-10, and the names of the contributors were commemorated by their arms painted on the roof and on the windows of the law-school, which have been long destroyed, but a list of them is preserved. Peshall, p. 66.

The porch was erected in 1637 at the cost of Dr. Morgan Owen, chaplain to archbishop Laud: the expense was 230*l*. Laud's History of his Chancellorship, p. 185. The figure of the Virgin and child on this porch gave great offence to the puritans, and was made one of the articles of accusation against Laud. See Prynne's "Canterburies Doome." It was defaced by the parliamentary soldiers about five years after it was erected.

The length of the nave is 94 feet by 54 wide, including side aisles; of the chancel, 68 by 24; the height of the nave is 70; of the side aisles 50. The height of the steeple from the ground to the summit of the spire, is 180 feet; the exact altitude of the spire alone of Salisbury cathedral.

[r] Mr. Thomas Plowman: this promising young man died a few days before the completion of the work, in March 1828. It may therefore be regarded as an appropriate and permanent monument of his genius.



THE FONT, AND MONUMENT OF SIR W. JONES[b].

[b] The present elegant font was executed by Mr. Plowman in 1828 at the expense of the Rev. E. Hawkins, D. D., provost of Oriel college, and many years vicar of this parish. Near this font is a mural tablet of statuary marble, supported by elegant figures, the work of Flaxman, to the memory of sir William Jones, corresponding with that in the chapel of University college, of which sir William was a member. The ancient stone font, beautifully carved, was defaced about the same time as the celebrated pulpit given by warden Fitzjames, which Dr. Bathurst has been erroneously accused of having removed during his vice-chancellorship. The following is Wood's account of it: "St. Mary's pulpit was then (1563) of fine carved ashler stone, joining to the upper pillar of the south side of the body of the church; which pulpit was taken away when Dr. John Owen was vice-chancellor about 1654, and a framed pulpit of *wood* was set on the pedestal that upheld the frame of stone." (Ath. Oxon. vol. I. c. 144. reprinted in the Annals.) The mutilated remains of both may be seen near the entrance door on the north side.

THIS PARISH is of small extent, containing only about fifty-five houses[t]. It is bounded on the west and north by the parishes of All Saints' and St. Michael's, on the east by St. Peter's, and on the south by St. John's. It includes within its precincts the greater portion of Brasennose college, part of the Schools and the Clarendon building, the Radcliffe library, the whole of All Souls' college, the western part of University, the whole of Oriel college, and St. Mary hall. Its western limits in the High street are Swan court and the house occupied by Mr. Spiers, two doors beyond the lodgings of the principal of Brasennose college. The hamlet of Littlemore, situated about two miles from Oxford, on the Henley road, belongs to this parish, where some remains of the

REMAINS OF THE MYNCHERY AT LITTLEMORE.

[t] In the population returns of 1831 the number of souls is stated to be 419; but Littlemore liberty is not included, containing 425 more. Vid. Comparative Account of the Population, &c. pp. 210, 211.

Saxon mynchery, mynecena-þice[u], already mentioned, are still to be seen.

Schools.—Wood enumerates not less than thirty-two schools in School street alone, about the year 1400; schools being at that time, like halls, hostels, and inns, receptacles for scholars, clerks, or students, and generally under the government of masters of the different faculties; who were responsible to the chancellor; giving aulary cautions, and depositing pledges in his hands.

Halls.—We find mention of several academical halls in this parish; the exact situations of a few of which may be pointed out to the curious. Opposite to the west gate of All Souls' college was Nevyle hall, which was for "legists," or law students, and appears to have been of some importance in the time of Henry VI. Opposite to the south end of Cat street was George hall, of which there are some slight remains at the back of the Old Bank. Near to this were Great and Little Lion halls, of which there is an engraving in Mr. Skelton's Oxonia, from drawings preserved in the Bodleian library. These two halls being demised by Oseney to Mr. John Cobbowe, clerk, in 1435, were united by him, and afterwards called Cobbowe hall. The site may be traced near the Black Lion public-house, opposite to the new almshouses built by the late venerable alderman, W. Fletcher, esq.[x]

[u] This mynchery, or nunnery, was restored soon after the conquest, had a charter of confirmation from Henry II, and a bull for the re-edification of the church from pope Innocent IV, c. 1254. See Dugdale, Tanner, Wood, Hearne, &c.

[x] Several other halls are mentioned in Schidyerde street; but as they were afterwards included in Oriel college, we pass them over at present. Of Tackley inn, or Bulkeley hall, mentioned often, a crypt and one window of the refectory are still remaining in the house occupied by Mr. Slatter, a few doors to the west of St. Mary hall lane. Near to this were Swan hall and St. Thomas's hall: the latter was given for the support of the chapel of St. Thomas.

STREETS.—There has not been much alteration in the streets of this parish, but their names have undergone several changes. Magpie lane, so called from the sign of the Magpie which formerly hung on the east side of it, was anciently called Grope lane, from W. de Grope, who lived in it, and owned divers messuages hereabout in the time of king John. In this lane lived Winkyn de Worde, one of the earliest printers in England; and from him it was at one time called Winkyn lane. The lane now called St. Mary hall lane, was anciently called Schidyerde street, "vicus Schediasticorum," from the number of writers and transcribers of *schedes*, sheets, or books, who resided in it. This lane was anciently continued between Corpus Christi and Canterbury colleges to St. Frideswide's church. School street, called in some ancient documents "Vicus Scholarum Artium," commenced from the High street, at the west end of St. Mary's church, passing between a number of ancient schools and halls, and having Duke Humphrey's library on the west side, near the north end, where it ran into the lane under the north wall of the city, called in this part Exeter lane.

Between School street and Cat street were innumerable tenements, of which some idea may be formed from a ground-plan preserved in the Radcliffe library, engraved by Mr. Skelton in his Oxonia. One school here was distinguished by the appellation of Beaufront, from its superior frontage. The schools of old Balliol hall stood where the Divinity school now is; little University hall, near the north-east angle of Brasennose college. The priory of Bicester, as well as Oseney abbey, had its school here; and Paske hall, given to the nuns of Littlemore about the middle of the reign of Hen. III. assumed the appellation of Littlemore schools. Oriel college had also its schools at the corner of the little lane leading from Cat street to School street, opposite the now blank door of All Souls' college, given to St. Mary's church in the reign of Edward III. by Nicholas Garland, to find two priests to celebrate divine service at the altar of St. Thomas. (See more in Wood's Account of Local Antiquities, at the end of his History and Annals, p. 709—794.)

F. Mackenzie. J. Le Keux

ST MICHAELS CHURCH.

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MEMORIALS OF OXFORD.

NORTH VIEW OF BOCARDO, 1770.

St. Michael's Church.

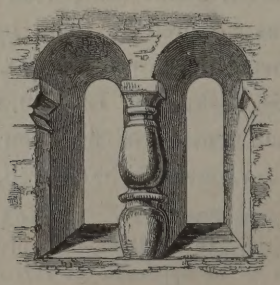
THE Church of St. Michael at North-gate [a] is said to have belonged to the canons of St. Frideswide in the Saxon times; but if so it was lost during the struggles between the regular and secular clergy, by which that society was distracted about the period [b] of the Norman conquest, and was restored to them by king Henry I. with several other churches in 1122 [c]. Subsequently, William de Blois, bishop of Lincoln, about 1205, appointed an annual pension of five marks to be paid to them out of the revenues of the church, which was con-

[a] See St. Peter's in the East, p. 1. [b] See Christ Church, p. 13.

[c] Reg. Mag. St. Frid. In the Domesday survey is the following entry, which appears to be applicable to this church: 'Presbyteri S. Michaelis habent ij mansiones reddentes Ljj denarios.' This would seem to imply, that the church was independent of St. Frideswide's at the period of the survey.

firmed by pope Innocent III. in the 17th year of his pontificate, and afterwards by other popes. This pension appears to have been purchased, or an equivalent given for it, by Henry Burwash, or Burghersh, bishop of Lincoln, in 1326; after which the patronage remained in the diocesan until the foundation of Lincoln college; when Richard Fleming, bishop of Lincoln, obtained a charter to annex it, together with the now forgotten church of St. Mildred, to the collegiate church of All Saints', and to settle it on that society [d].

In the present fabric we may remark seven or eight different periods of construction; though nearly the whole of it is of considerable antiquity. The most ancient portion is the tower; which has been generally referred to the period when the advowson was given or restored to the monastery of St. Frideswide, in 1122. But it has been supposed by many eminent architects and antiquaries to be a relic of the Saxon times. It is built of rubble with quoins of finished masonry. The original doorway at the west end is walled up; but traces of it remain. In the belfry, two of the four windows are divided by balusters of a singular form and of rude



WINDOW IN THE BELFRY.

[d] See Lincoln college, p. 3.

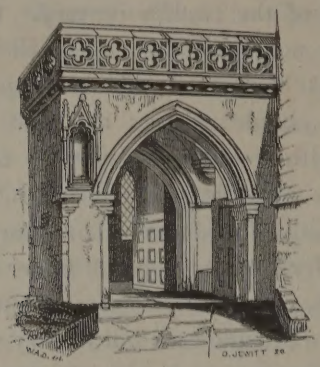
workmanship, in the place of the usual munnions[e]. The next portion is the nave; then the chancel, which is in the earliest lancet style, and was probably added about the end of the twelfth century. Of the original nave there are now no remains; but there can be little doubt that the church at this early period was like most others, a simple oblong; and that the side walls were pierced with arches as we now see them, when the addition of the side chapels, which gradually assumed the form of aisles, rendered it necessary. About the same time a lofty arch was opened under the tower.

The chapels, with their separate altars, have been numerous and well endowed: but as they were all merged by the statute for suppressing chantries, we shall be brief respecting their founders. The first of which we have any account was built about 1260 by Dionysia Burewald, an opulent widow in this parish, in the reign of Hen. III. It is stated to have been on the south side, and the two windows at the east end of the south aisle probably belonged to it[f]. She is also said to have built another chapel or chantry on the north side, near the Lady chapel. This was probably opposite to the other, as one of the original lancet windows remained until the year 1833; when the north wall of this chapel was taken down and rebuilt; having been for many years in a very ruinous state. The next was built by John Odyham, a rich burgess of Oxford, who died in 1342, and appears

[e] These balusters correspond in a very striking manner with the representations found in the pen and ink drawings which frequently accompany Saxon MSS. Similar examples have been recently noticed in the British Magazine; particularly at Earl's Barton and Barton on the Humber.

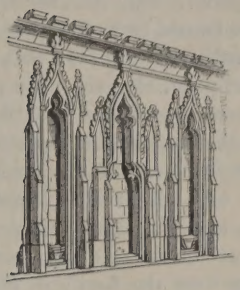
[f] This is now called the 'Welsh' aisle, from the number of members of Jesus college, natives of the principality, buried there.

to be that which now forms the western part of the south aisle. The porch attached to it was probably built at the same period.



THE PORCH.

John Archer, another rich burgess of Oxford, who died in 1524, and his wife, also gave lands for this purpose: their chapel appears to have been opposite to that of Odyham, and now forms the western part of the north aisle. The history of the whole church is thus ascertained in an unusually complete manner, with the exception of the Lady chapel, on the north side of the chancel, which being mentioned at the time of the erection of the first chapel by D. Burewald, must be nearly cotemporary with the original building: although the windows and the three very elegant niches at the east end clearly indicate that it has been much altered since, if not entirely rebuilt. Some great repairs and additions seem to have been made about the time of Richard II; whose bust, with that of Isabella his queen, is seen in good preservation, terminating the label of the east window on the outside. Of these three niches, the central one is the largest; but they are all three of very



THREE NICHES IN THE LADY CHAPEL.

elegant workmanship. Near these niches is a plain piscina of earlier character; indicating that there was formerly an altar here. In the chancel we find also a piscina, and sedilia for the three officiating ministers. There are several other niches still remaining in other parts of the church and porch; all of them elegant in form and workmanship: we regret to add, that one was destroyed when the north chapel was rebuilt by Mr. Plowman in 1833. The screen, which formerly supported the roodloft, still remains at the entrance into the chancel; and there is another screen to the north.

This parish is bounded on the north by that of St. Mary Magdalene, on the south by St. Martin's, All Saints, and St. Mary's, on the east by St. Peter's in the East, and on the west by St. Peter le Bailey and St. Thomas's. It includes a part of Lincoln and Brasenose colleges, of the Schools, and of the Clarendon building: the whole of Jesus and Exeter colleges, the Museum, and the Theatre.

It contains 155 houses; and the population, by the census of 1831, was 971. The annual value of property rated to the poor is about 8000*l.*; but this does not include the colleges and public buildings, which are exempt from poor-rates.

The streets in this parish have been little altered, excepting in name; but in this respect there has been considerable change. Broad street was formerly called Canditch and Horsemonger lane, from a fair for horses which was held here, as we have mentioned in our

account of Magdalene parish. Ship lane, which originally ran close to and under the city wall, formed part of the lane which completely encompassed the city immediately within the wall, and was called by different names in different parts, after the most important persons who resided in it, and other circumstances: thus Ship lane, which derives its present name from the Ship inn, and both perhaps from the *sheep* market, was called Dewy's lane, from the family of de Ou, de Ewe, or Dewy. It was also called Burewald's lane, from Dionysia Burewald, who resided in it, and left several tenements in it for the support of her chapel before mentioned; afterwards Somnore's lane, or corruptly Summer lane, from the family of Somnore, which was of importance here in the reign of Henry VIII; and Laurence Hall lane, from a hall which stood near the east end of it. St. Michael's lane seems to be its proper designation. From the Turl, or Turl gate, this lane was continued to Smith-gate and Cat street, and was anciently called Cornwall lane and Exeter lane, passing between the city wall and the principal front of that college which then faced the north. Thence it was continued by the side of Duke Humphrey's library and the Divinity school; and was finally stopped up about the time when the present schools and Exeter chapel were built.

The Turl appears to have been known by the same appellation from a very early period; but there has been considerable controversy as to the origin of the name. Some consider it as a corruption of Torald, the name of a family of note in Oxford in the thirteenth century; others, as a genuine Saxon word, signifying a narrow passage or gate; one of the smaller gates or posterns of the city having been situated here: for it is not more than forty years since the present handsome street was built; previous to which period it was a very narrow passage, with steps descending from the Broad street into it. The street leading from the Turl to the High street is now commonly called by the same name; but within a few years was called Lincoln College lane, and formerly Silver street; either because it was chiefly occupied by the craft of silversmiths, or by corruption from some of the family of Silvester.

The Market lane, or Jesus College lane, leading from the Cornmarket, or North-gate street, to Lincoln college, was formerly called Cheney lane, probably from a family of that name. Mildred lane, now generally called Brasenose College lane, led from the Schools to St. Mildred's church; and passed through the churchyard; Cheney lane being a continuation of it. Wood's Annals, vol. II. p. 751; and Liber Niger Scaccarii, p. 588.)

The Cornmarket was formerly called North-gate street, and retained that name until the gateway which gave rise to it was removed. In the middle of this street, a sort of shed, with a leaden roof supported on stone pillars, was erected in 1536 by Dr. Claymund, president of C.C.C. for the purpose of keeping the corn dry: the custom of bringing samples only to market being comparatively a modern one. This shed was removed as an obstruction to the street early in the last century. (See Peshall, p. 333.)

New Inn lane was called Bedford lane and Adynton lane after families of note in their day who resided in it; also Wood street, from a custom of laying timber there, for which W. Brampton was indicted in 7th Henry IV. It led from the North gate to the Castle trench; but when the return of peaceable times made the castle of less importance, the western half of the lane was laid out in gardens, and afterwards built upon.

The lane leading from New Inn lane to the church of St. Peter le Bailey, now called New Inn Hall lane, was formerly called 'The lane of the seven deadly sins;' 'but for what reason,' says Wood, 'I cannot find.' (See Peshall, p. 185-6.)

The HALLS in this parish were very numerous; but are nearly all included in the site of colleges and public buildings. Great and Little White hall, the one situated upon and the other under the city wall, were united under one principal, W. Gudere, in 1450. The bastion, or tower, at the back of Mr. Prior's house in Ship lane, formed part of one of them, and a rent was paid for it to the city. Elme hall was situated at the east end of St. Michael's churchyard, and at the opposite end a house was built against the tower by Stephen de Adynton, mayor, 12th Edward III; the ground being claimed by the corporation as part of their fee-farm. There was an old house standing in this situation until within the last fifty years. Opposite to the church there still remains an old stone building, which is very frequently mentioned in the parish accounts as 'the great house built of freestone,' being on the site of a tenement given by Dionysia Burewald in 1260 for the support of her chantry. It was rebuilt in the reign of Henry VI; and Wood says, 'the fabric both within and without had the shape of a little college, but being deserted with divers other inns and halls upon the falling out of conflicts between the scholars and townsmen, it came to be an habitation for lay persons, who made it a brewhouse, and afterwards a common inn.' The building now standing appears to be a portion of this fabric. A small quitrent is still annually paid to the churchwardens for it.

SOUTH VIEW OF BOCARDO 1770, AFTER MALCHAIR.

At the end of North-gate street, and nearly adjoining to the tower of St. Michael's church, stood [k] the celebrated Bocardo, the principal north gate of the city, which was more strongly fortified than any of the other gates, having no river before it to assist in the defence, as was the case with all the others. When the fortifications fell into disuse, the room over the gateway, which had in early times served as a muniment room [l], was applied to the purpose of a common prison, principally for debtors. There are persons yet living who remember it as such, and also an ancient custom of the debtors

[k] This gate was sold by the city to the commissioners of the paving act in 1771, for 306*l.* and was pulled down the same year, being considered as an obstruction to the street. (See Peshall, p. 198.)

[l] This may account for the *lumpy* silver coin of Athens found in a recess there when the gate was demolished; for though the original work was of the most remote antiquity, and is mentioned in the eighth century, yet it appears to have been partly rebuilt 4 Ed. II, and some additions made 41 Ed. III. The lions and eagles carved on the stones, instead of being traced to Æneas, Brutus, Locrinus, or Belinus, may be explained by a reference to the royal arms of the Norman race of our kings, and to those of the early dukes of Cornwall; who had mansions in this neighbourhood, and may have repaired the gate.

F.Mackenzie. J.Le Keux.

BROAD STREET.

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letting down a hat or purse by a cord from the window to receive the charity of the passers by. But this place has derived its chief renown, and will ever be memorable, as the place of confinement of the glorious martyrs, Cranmer, Latimer, and Ridley, previous to their execution. This took place in the open space between Balliol college and the city wall. Latimer and Ridley were first executed; and Cranmer is said to have ascended to the top of the tower, in which he was confined, to witness their execution; where he openly kneeled down, and prayed for them. Shortly afterwards he was called upon to share their fate on the same spot, which is said by tradition to be precisely indicated by one of the bastions of the wall still remaining, immediately under which the stake is said to have been fixed [m].

BASTION OF THE CITY WALL; FROM THE GARDEN OF MISS HOSKYNS, 1834.

The fortifications of the city, of which this gate formed a prominent part, are distinctly mentioned on several occasions by the Saxon his-

[m] See our account of Magdalene Parish, p. 11.

torians; and from their regular plan, combined with other circumstances, there is reason to suppose that they were of Roman origin: but without entering into this question we proceed to point out the present remains of them in this parish, which are considerable. Commencing beyond the western extremity of the parish at Broken-hayes the wall remains nearly perfect for several hundred yards, between the houses in George lane and New Inn lane; and may be traced as far as the Cornmarket to the site of Bocardo. Thence following the line, there are considerable remains between the houses in Ship lane and Broad street, of which we have given a specimen, and it may be clearly traced to the Turl; again on the opposite side in the premises of Exeter college, though partly built upon; where is a gateway with rustic work inserted in it in rather a singular manner, with the city arms carved in stone above. We then trace it to the Museum; which, as well as the Theatre, stands partly on the site of it. Along the whole of this line the 'clear' stream of Canditch, so often mentioned, formerly flowed. It is now, for the most part, arched over; and probably retains little of its former purity and clearness. The next points are Smith-gate and St. Catharine's chapel, mentioned in our account of St. Peter's in the East, page 16.

OLD BUILDINGS IN CARTER'S PASSAGE, HIGH STREET, 1834.

F. Mackenzie. J. Le Keux

ALL SAINTS CHURCH.

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ALL SAINTS'.

THE early history of this church is connected with that of St. Michael and the demolished church of St. Mildred. The first mention of it is in 1122, when it was given or confirmed by king Henry I. to the canons of St. Frideswide along with the two other churches before mentioned. In 1190 Hugh, bishop of Lincoln, made it a vicarage, with a pension of 40*s*. to the said canons. This continued until the advowson was granted by the priory to Henry Burwash, or Burghersh, bishop of Lincoln, 20 Edward II; whose successors retained it until R. Fleming settled it upon his college; thus making it collegiate as well as parochial. To this original church numerous chapels and chantries were added by different benefactors; of which an account is preserved in Peshall's history from Wood's MSS. and the archives of the parish. The old church was so much injured by the fall of the spire in 1699, as to render it necessary to rebuild it entirely; and the present elegant structure was erected on the site from a design furnished by dean Aldrich [o]. The expense was defrayed by a general subscription, and a brief obtained in 1705; but the building was not completed until 1708, nine years after the fall of the old church.

The present church is generally admired, although not strictly correct according to the modern rules of art; for the tower and spire, though very elegant, exhibit in some degree a mixture of the Gothic and Grecian

[o] Henry Aldrich, D. D. dean of Christ Church, author of the popular treatise, entitled 'Elements of Civil Architecture,' and other works. The present church is a fair example of the style which he has described and wished to inculcate; but built of bad Headington stone.

styles. The body of the church is ornamented both within and without by pilasters of the Corinthian order, over which is an attic story finished by a balustrade[p].

The altar-piece of stone, coloured to imitate marble, was the gift of bishop Crew, and cost 500*l*. The interior of the tower on the ground floor is fitted up as a vestry room, and in the centre is a table-tomb to the memory of the late Dr. Tatham, rector of Lincoln college, who is buried beneath, according to the directions of his will. In the upper part of the tower are five bells. The roof of this church has been much admired for its large span without the support of pillars: the ceiling is handsomely ornamented with fretwork; round the sides are painted the arms of the different benefactors who contributed to the building, amongst whom were queen Ann, who gave the timber; the duchess of Marlborough, who paved it at her own expense; bishop Crew, before mentioned; sir J. Walter, bart. who gave the glass for the windows; the earls of Abingdon and Guilford; the bishops of Durham, Oxford, Bristol, and Carlisle; the university, the separate colleges, and the city; and many private gentlemen[q]: but almost the whole of these are unfortunately at so great a height as not to be distinguished without a glass. A gallery has been recently erected at the west end of the church: which is better managed than such excrescences generally are.

This parish is small, containing only eighty-six houses and 560 inhabitants: the annual value of property rated to the poor is about 6000*l*. exclusive of the market, the shops in which are valued at 1300*l*. more. It extends on the north to St. Michael's parish, taking in the greater part of Lincoln college and of the market; on the south to Christ Church; on the east to St. Mary's parish; and on the west to St. Martin's or Carfax parish. In this space is included a part of the two ancient parishes of St. Edward and St. Mildred; the whole site of the latter being now occupied by colleges and public buildings: it was united with All Saints' in the reign of Henry V, and the church incorporated with Lincoln college.

[p] The dimensions are 72 feet long, 42 wide, and 50 high.

[q] Peshall, p. 42.

This church, dedicated to St. Mildred, the daughter of one of the Saxon kings[r], was given to the church of St. Frideswide at its first foundation; which was the case with several other churches in Oxford: its subsequent history is precisely the same with that of St. Michael's and All Saints', until they were all united; and this being no longer wanted was pulled down. It is mentioned in the ancient statutes of the university, and congregations were formerly held in it. The ground on which it stood is now occupied by part of the buildings of Lincoln college.

St. Edward's church[s], dedicated to king Edward the martyr, who died in 979, was situated between the High street and the gardens of Christ Church, near the lane which is now called Bear lane. It is singular that we have no record of the precise period when this church was destroyed, and its parish divided between All Saints' and St. Aldate's: but the church appears to have been always a very poor one; and even with the chapelry of Binsey which belonged to it was not considered as worth taxing at the general taxation in 1291. As no mention is made of it at the time of the building of Christ Church, it must have been destroyed previously to that period: Wood says about 300 years since; which would give, from his time, nearly the same date with the destruction of St. Mildred's.

The streets in this parish have already been partially mentioned in describing those of St. Michael's[t]. St. Edward's lane, now called Bear lane, from the Bear inn

[r] Daughter of Merivall, the son of Penda, king of the Mercians. Wood ap. Peshall, p. 94. on the authority of the registers of St. Frideswide, to which Wood had access.

[s] Peshall, p. 116—118.

[t] P. 6.

which stood at the corner in the High street, formerly led to St. Frideswide's church, but now only into another lane called Blue-boar lane, from the Blue-boar inn which stood at the corner of it in St. Aldate's. This latter was once divided into Tresham lane, which led from St. Edward's lane into Fish street, now St. Aldate's, and Schirburne lane, which led into Schidiard street, now called St. Mary Hall lane, or Oriel lane.

Halls.—These have been very numerous in this parish, if we include the two decayed parishes now incorporated with it; but we must here enumerate only those which are not included in the site of any college, and of which some vestiges remain. Broadgates hall, one of three which bore the same name in different parishes, was situated in the site of the court called Amsterdam, at the extremity of this parish towards St. Mary's. This was formerly a place of considerable importance, containing within the gates, from which it took its name, a chapel and various buildings for scholars, and possessed extraordinary privileges; being a sanctuary or asylum for all petty offenders against the law, and even for manslaughter; as appears from the case of J. Parry, a tailor, in 1463, who, having stabbed a man, and being in fear of his life, fled for refuge to this place, and was allowed the benefit of it. This privilege was retained until 1530, the period of the reformation; from which we may conclude that it was originally granted by the pope, in common with most others of the same description. This hall was pulled down in 1661, and there are now scarcely any remains of it to be traced.

Stodeley's inn, or hall, stood in the high street immediately opposite to the door of the church. An arched doorway, and a few other slight remains, may still be seen in the houses on the site of it.

At the western corner of the lane before mentioned, as St. Edward's, or Bear lane, was an ancient hall, called Parn hall, given to the monastery of St. Frideswide by Christian le Rus, in the beginning of the reign of king Henry III. It was afterwards called Taberd's inn, and Furres inn, and lastly the Bear inn, by which name it was known until within the last thirty years, when the whole premises were rebuilt and divided into several private houses.

Kempe hall was situated in the High street, opposite the market-place, and nearly, if not exactly, on the site of the Chequer inn: there are various remains of old building in the houses on and about this spot; (see p. 16.) and at the back of them is a detached building in

good preservation in the Elisabethan style, with a good deal of carved-work on the staircase, ceilings, &c. (See p. 10.) It bears the date in one part of 1611, and in another of 1637. About the first named period king James I. and his court paid several visits to Oxford, an account of which will be found at length in Wood's Annals; and another by Hearne, in his edition of Leland's Collectanea, vol. II. pp. 626—647. Charles I. was also, as is well known, a great patron of this university; and the numerous buildings which we find in various parts of the city of about this date, seem to attest that it was then in a very flourishing condition. Wood states that the number of scholars in the year 1605, when the king paid his first visit to the university, was 2254. (Annals, by Gutch, vol. II. p. 285.)

The present market-place, erected under the act of parliament of 1771 for improving the city, was built from a design of Gwyn[x]. It is tolerably commodious, though not ornamental. Great improvements have been made in it of late years, and it is now one of the best supplied and best regulated markets in the kingdom. Previously to the period of its erection a number of markets for different products were held in various parts of the city, all of which are now merged in this general one, with the exception of the Corn-market; which it has been attempted to remove to the space under the Town hall, but hitherto without success. On the site of the present market were the Apothecaria and Spiceria, or market for drugs and spices. Also several halls; amongst them one near the Mitre inn, called Burwaldscote hall, named after Roger Burwaldscote, archdeacon of Wilts, and rector of Tackley in 1245[y].

St. Edward's hall, and St. Edward's school, including the 'Great Civil Law school,' and the 'Great school of the Canon Law,' or 'Canon school,' were situated near

[x] For a minute history of the markets and fairs here of former days the reader is referred to Peshall, pp. 329—338.

[y] Peshall, p. 48.

the church of the same name[z]. These schools were in ancient times of considerable importance and much frequented[a], but they had fallen into decay in the early part of the fifteenth century. About the year 1489 the university made great efforts to have them restored, and some of the most eminent persons of that time contributed to the repair of the buildings, but the school never appears to have flourished much after this period. At the reformation it fell into the hands of the laity, and was soon afterwards entirely destroyed.

OLD HOUSES IN THE HIGH STREET, 1834.

[z] See Wood's Annals, by Gutch, vol. III. pp. 739—741. 768—770. and Peshall, p. 117.

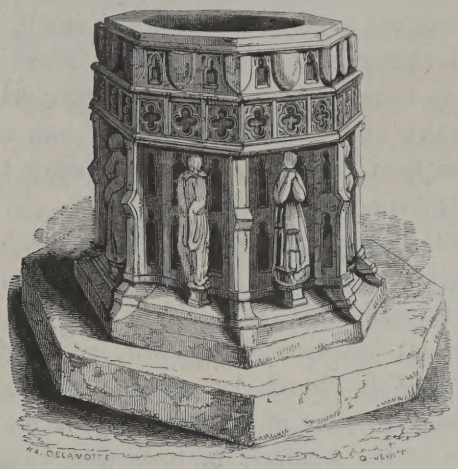
[a] Being used by the Dominicans or Black Friars at their first coming to Oxford in 1221. When they translated their mansion into the south suburbs, in 1259, these schools were used by members of the university, who read the canon or civil law in them. Wood's Annals, vol. II. part ii. p. 739.

F. Mackenzie. J. Le Keux.

ST MARTIN'S CHURCH
CARFAX.

Published May 1st 1836 by J. H. Parker, Oxford; C. Tilt, Fleet St.; London; & J. Le Keux, Hammersmith.

MEMORIALS OF OXFORD.



THE FONT[a].

St. Martin's Church, or Carfax.

THE foundation of this church is of great antiquity, and, according to Wood, 'beyond all record.' The saint in whose name it was dedicated, was bishop of Tours, in France, and died in 399. The advowson originally belonged to the crown; and was given by Canute the Dane, with the manors of Great and Little Linford in Buckinghamshire, and other revenues, to the Benedictines of St. Mary at Abingdon, about 1032[b]. It was

[a] This ancient Font has been preserved, though in rather a mutilated state: it appears to be of the fourteenth century, and has been a rich specimen of the style prevalent at that period.

[b] In the Abingdon Register in the British Museum, partly transcribed by Wood, is preserved the Danish monarch's charter of dona-

confirmed to them successively by pope Eugenius III, Hugh, bishop of Lincoln, and pope Innocent III, between 1147 and 1202; and remained in their possession until the dissolution of monasteries in the 37th Henry VIII. when it reverted to the crown, to which it still belongs[c].

Several chantries are enumerated by Wood; some of which were formerly well endowed, particularly that of the fraternity of St. John the Baptist; but, as the old church has been destroyed, it is unnecessary to go into any details respecting them[d].

The old TOWER remains; which, though it does not harmonize well with the modern church, is venerable for its antiquity. It is said to have been formerly much higher; but was taken down lower, with some other parts of the church, by command of king Edward III. in the 14th year of his reign; 'because, upon the complaints of the scholars, the townsmen would in time of combat with them retire there as to their castle, and from thence gall and annoy them with arrows and stones.'

The original NAVE of the church had become so much decayed, that a few years since it was thought necessary to pull it entirely down and rebuild it. Of the present structure Messrs. Harris and Plowman of Oxford were both the architects and builders. The expense was defrayed chiefly by public subscription, to

tion; which is a curious specimen of inflated Dano-Saxon Latinity. The church is called 'Monasteriolum,' a little *minster*, because it was served by the monastic clergy; as the majority of churches then were.

[c] V. Dugdale's Monasticon, vol. i. p. 107; Peshall, pp. 174–6.

[d] An attempt was made to revive the chantry of St. Thomas the Martyr 1 and 2 Philip and Mary; but in 1 Eliz. we find this item in the parish accounts: 'For blacking out of St. Thomas his altar 6*d*. &c.' Wood's MSS. D. 2, 49.

which the University as a body, and most of the colleges, contributed liberally. The corporation of the city gave as a first subscription 600*l.* and nearly all its members subscribed individually. The late sir Edward Hitchings, knt. during whose mayoralty the edifice was completed, gave, in addition to a previous donation, fifty guineas towards the reparation and improvement of the organ, and another fifty was given by the corporation for the same purpose[e]. The first stone of the new church was laid on the 23rd of October 1820, and it was opened for divine service on the 16th of June 1822.

The rectory[f] appears to have been always a very poor one, as at the general taxation, 20 Edward I. 1291, it was valued at five marks only. Peshall says that in his time, 'with the queen's bounty obtained, it was worth but 27*l.*' per annum. At present it is worth little more than 100*l.*

The PARISH is of small extent[g], and is bounded on the

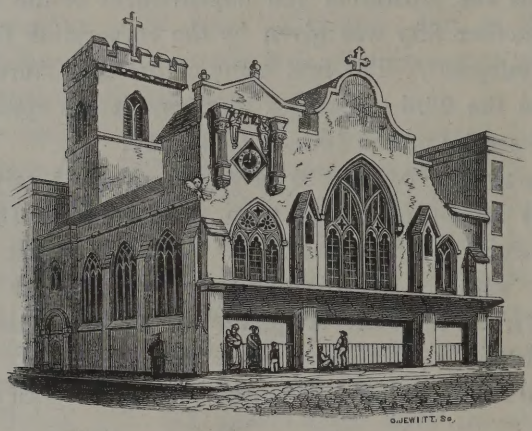
[e] New Oxford Guide, 1834, p. 128.

[f] Besides the rector, there are also four lecturers, who are appointed by the mayor, recorder, aldermen, and assistants of the city. These were well endowed in 1778 by the liberality of Robert earl of Litchfield, and of Wm. Wickham, esq. one of the assistants: the former, having assigned 1000*l.* on trust, his trustees invested that sum in the purchase of ten shares of 100*l.* each, in the Oxford canal navigation; and the latter gave five other shares in the same canal, as an addition to the fund, for the same uses, the annual dividend on which amounts now to nearly 600*l.* Two lecturers were appointed so early as 1578; with an annual stipend of twenty marks. See Wood's Annals by Gutch, vol. ii. p. 194.

There is a reader appointed by the dean of Christ Church, and paid 20*l.* a year from a fund bequeathed by bishop Fell for a lecturer to read prayers daily in a church in Oxford.

[g] It is remarkable that this small parish has given birth to several eminent authors. Sir William Davenant, called 'the Sweet Swan of Isis,' was son of John Davenant, a vintner, who kept a tavern for-

north by St. Michael's, south by St. Aldate's, east by All Saints', and west by St. Peter le Baily. In 1771 it contained seventy-six houses; in 1833 the number had decreased to seventy: the population was then only four hundred and ninety; the annual value of property rated to the poor about 5,400*l.*



THE OLD CHURCH, SHEWING THE SITUATION OF PENNYLESS BENCH.

Attached to the east end of the old church was Pennyless bench, chiefly known to modern readers by T. Warton's

merly called the Crown Inn, near Carfax Church, now the residence of Mrs. Purbrick: he was born there in February, 1605. The learned Chillingworth, author of the Religion of Protestants a safe way to Salvation, &c. was born 1602 in a small house near the north-west corner of the High street, admitted fellow of Trinity College in 1628, and died in 1643. He left to the mayor and corporation 400*l.* to be lent in sums of 50*l.* to poor young tradesmen: but from the confusion of the civil wars only 20*l.* of this sum was ever received. John Underhill, bishop of Oxford from 1589 to 1592, was also a native of this parish; being born in the Cross Inn. The learned Nicholas Lloyd, fellow of Wadham, was rector of the parish in 1665.

humorous description of it in his 'Companion to the Guide and Guide to the Companion:' but Wood informs us, 'that here the mayor and his brethren met occasionally on public affairs,' probably when proclamations were to be made. This bench is mentioned in the parish accounts in the 37th Henry VIII, and was then either first erected or entirely rebuilt; it was again rebuilt with a shed over it supported on stone pillars, which were afterwards removed, and a sort of alcove substituted for them, as shewn in our engraving. In 1747 it was represented to the city council that 'the old Butter-bench, otherwise Pennyless bench, was a great nuisance, being a harbour for idle and disorderly people:' and it was then ordered to be immediately taken down. The site of it continues to be a favourite loitering place to this day, and it is still the custom for labourers out of employment to wait about this spot for the chance of being hired.

On the south side of the church, but separated from it by the street, is the present Butter-bench [h], as it is still called, though it has long ceased to be used for the purpose which its name indicates; the new market having removed the necessity for the stations of particular trades formerly so numerous in Oxford, of which the name is frequently retained long after the use has passed away.

Nearly in the centre of the four streets which meet at

[h] On the site of this Butter-bench formerly stood a tavern, called at different periods by the names of the Mermaid and Swyndlestock. It was in this tavern on the feast of St. Scholastica the virgin, Feb. 10, 1354, that the great conflict between the University and city originated in a quarrel between John de Croydon the vintner, or landlord of the tavern, and some scholars who were drinking wine there: for a full account of which see Wood's Annals by Gutch, I. pp. 456—473. Beneath this spot and some adjoining premises, and also part of the street, some very ancient and extensive vaults are still in existence: they are now in the occupation of Mr. W. Butler, wine merchant.

this point, stood the celebrated structure called Carfax[i] conduit: built in 1610 by Otho Nicholson, esq. of Christ Church, for the purpose of supplying the different colleges and halls, as well as private houses, with water which was brought in pipes from the side of a hill above the village of North Hinksey, at an expense of 2500*l*. This conduit was a very magnificent structure according to the taste of the period in which it was built; but for a detailed description of it, and of its use, we refer our readers to other works[k] which could better admit the space required. Within a very few years after its erection it was presented as a nuisance to the chancellor, archbishop Laud, on account of the obstruction which it offered to the carriage way, but it was allowed to stand until the year 1787; when it was taken down and presented by the university and city to the earl of Harcourt, who caused it to be reconstructed in his park at Nuneham, where it still remains. (See p. 16.)

THE OLD TOWN HALL, OR DOMUS CONVERSORUM.

[i] See the engraving and note p. 16. The usual derivation of the word Carfax, which is commonly applied, not only to the conduit but to the church and parish, is from 'Quatre-voies,' *quadrivium*, from the four main streets of the city meeting at this point.

[k] Peshall, pp. 17—20; Gent. Mag. for December 1771; Wade's Walks, p. 268, 269; though the paging is confused.

The TOWN HALL. We find mention of a public hall, 'Gildalla,' for the burgesses of Oxford, in the reign of Hen. II. When that king confirmed to them 'Gildam Mercatorium,' they procured means, says Wood, to have an ancient hall, called Battes, or Baptist, or Jews' hall[1], situated nearly opposite to the present town-hall, converted into a Guild-hall, for their public meetings after church-service, seeing that their old portmote in St. Martin's churchyard was too little to contain their fraternity.' But they did not long use this hall for their portmote; having removed soon afterwards to the 'Domus Conversorum,' or house of converts, the site of the present town hall; which had also been the property of the Jews, and having fallen to the crown by escheat, was granted to the burgesses by king Henry III: in consideration of which, together with a renewal of the charter, 'pro Gilda Mercatoria,' and other liberties, a fine of 100*l.* was levied among them. This house had previously been appointed for the abode of the converts from the Jewish persuasion. Several other tenements in this parish paid also a rent to the 'Domus Conversorum' in London.

As soon as the burgesses had obtained possession of this site they built a hall upon it, first of one story, afterwards of two, the lower room being converted into two taverns in the beginning of Edward II; the keepers thereof to pay an annual rent for them to the city: a custom

[1] Peshall, p. 158. 'This hall,' says Wood, 'was inhabited by clerks, or scholars, at or near the Norman conquest: being then owned, with divers other halls and tenements in this parish, by the Jews of Oxon.' At a subsequent period it became an inn by the name of the Fleur de lis: and was once the property of Antony a Wood. In modern days it has been known by the name of Grafton house, by which it is still distinguished. A little to the south of this was Clare hall, afterwards called Fishmongers' hall, which is also mentioned as belonging to Elias, the son of Basseve, a Jew, in the reign of Henry III.

which has been continued to the present day. But this old hall having become ruinous was taken down in 1751, and entirely rebuilt, partly [m] at the expense of Thomas Rowney, esq., then one of the representatives of the city in parliament, and a liberal benefactor on several occasions.

Attached to the north end of it is the council chamber; a fine old room, which was preserved when the present town hall was built: it contains some good portraits, but is now in a bad state of repair. Beneath the council chamber is the mayor's court, and the city audit room: on the east side of the area is the town clerk's office; and on the south side a large school-room, built in 1658, by John Nixon, esq. alderman of Oxford, a native of Blechingdon in this county. He endowed it for the maintenance of a schoolmaster who was to receive 30*l.* per annum, and to teach forty freemen's sons, reading, writing, and arithmetic. His wife Joan, at her death, left lands in Blechingdon, for apprenticing two of these boys annually.

THE STAR COACH-OFFICE.

[m] It appears by the city books, that in 1751 'Mr. Thomas Rowney agreed to take down and rebuild both the Town halls, he receiving the old materials and 1300*l.* heretofore given by several well disposed persons.' The work was finished July 11, 1752.

HALLS.—Immediately to the north of the Town hall was Knapp hall; mentioned so early as the reign of William the Conqueror as belonging to one Ermanold, a burgess of Oxford, by whom it was given to Abingdon abbey in 1104: it is again specified in the confirmation of their charter by pope Eugenius III. in 1152 [n]; was subsequently known by the name of the Falcon inn and the Castle inn; but appears to have been from a very early period a 'receptacle for clerks,' or an academical hall. It is now occupied by Mr. William Butler, wine merchant. 'Underneath it,' says Wood [o], 'was an ancient and deep vault, curiously arched with stone, like to divers halls and religious places in this city in old time.' This vault is still in existence, 1835. Merston hall, so called from J. de Merston, burgess and mayor in the year 1400, afterwards Coventry hall, from Thomas Coventry, mayor in the reign of Henry V, was situated on the site of the Roebuck inn, partly in this parish and partly in St. Michael's; the back premises having extended at that time into Cheney lane, as they do at the present day into the same lane, now called Market lane. This explains what Wood calls a seeming contradiction [p]. Near it was Mauger or Malgar hall, so called from a family of that name who resided here within a few years after the Norman conquest, and were of importance in the reigns of king Stephen and Richard I. The first mention of it as an academical hall, is in a charter about the year 1234; and Walter de Merton had his education here [q]. The premises were formerly very large, and are still extensive, being now occupied as the Cross inn. It is called 'Gynger Inne' in the Valor Ecclesiasticus of Henry VIII. ii. 256; from W. Gyngyner, who was the owner of it 37 Edw. iij. There was anciently a quitrent of 6*s*. 11*d*. due from this tenement to the honour of Wallingford. The property belongs to New College; having been purchased by William of Wykeham of king Richard II. to whom it had escheated by the attainder of sir Robert Tresilian, knt., who had been found guilty of 'divers felonies and treasons against the king [r].' Adjoining to it on the south side was Somner's inn, originally a part of it, but afterwards a distinct hall, probably the same with Sorrel hall.

[n] Dugdale's Monasticon, vol. i. p. 107. [o] Peshall, p. 111.

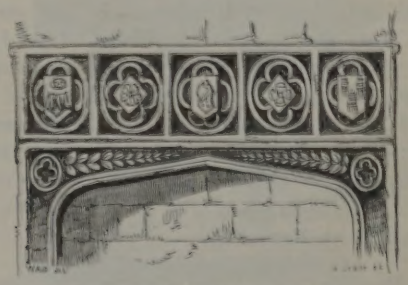
[p] Peshall, p. 36; see also our account of St. Michael's Parish. There is an engraving of Coventry hall in Mr. Skelton's Oxonia, from one of the drawings of ancient halls in the Bodleian.

[q] See our account of Merton college, note c. p. 3.

[r] Wood ap. Peshall, p. 37. Ibid. pp. 183–4.

Nearly opposite to these was Perry hall, called also Drapery hall[a], being situated in the Drapery, or place set apart for the drapers, according to the custom before mentioned. This hall is mentioned in the 26th Edward III. There are still some remains of an academical hall; particularly a spacious chimney-piece in good preservation, with the arms of New College, and those of the incorporated companies of merchant tailors and drapers, enriched with colours; of which we have given an engraving; some finely carved oak wainscoting; and a large window of the time of James I, &c. Within a few years the buttery hatch and kitchen might be distinctly traced; and a staircase of stone is still visible.

The Marshall's inn, or hall for clerks, was the last house in the parish in this direction, and with the King's Head afterwards became part of the Star inn, being situated on the site of the present coach-office: but it continued to be used by scholars even after this union, as a principal of the Star inn, or hall, occurs in the registers in 1512. The richly carved wooden gables of the house which now (1835) occupies this site, and of which we have given an engraving, p. 8, have attracted the attention of the antiquary and the architect; as well as some others in this parish, particularly those of the Grey-hound public-house in the High street. Though much obscured by repeated coats of whitewash, there is still enough to shew, that they would have been worthy of a place in the beautifully executed works of the late Mr. Pugin; whose loss, it is to be feared, is almost irreparable.



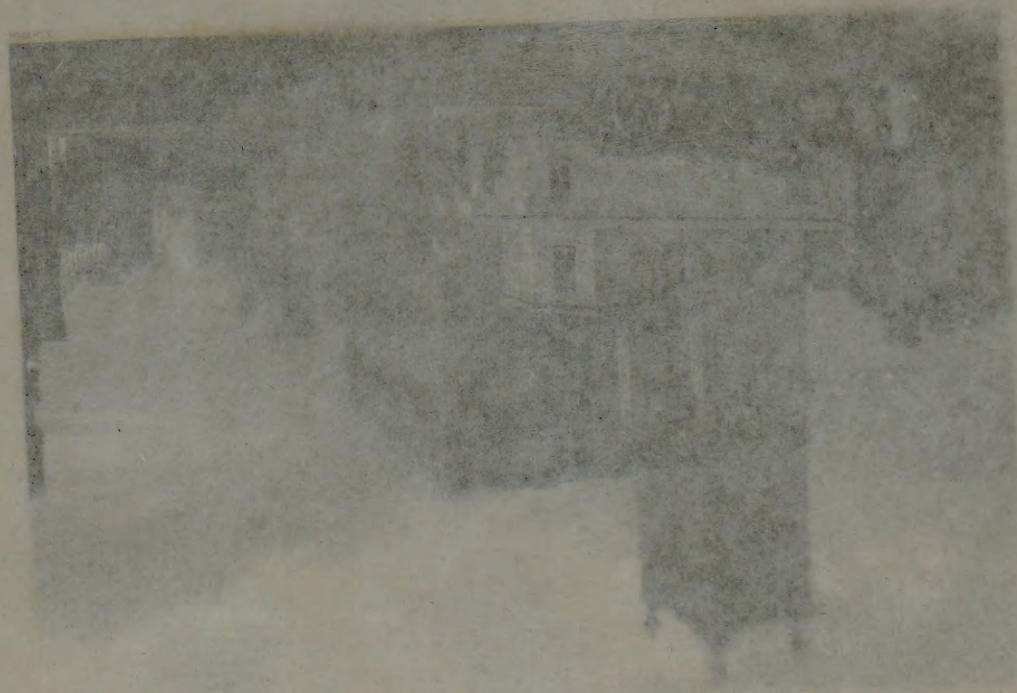
ANCIENT CHIMNEY-PIECE.

[a] In the middle of the street, between the Cross inn and Perry hall a shed, with a leaden roof supported by stone pillars, to preserve the corn from wet, was built in 1536 by Dr. Claymund, President of Corpus.—V. Peshall, p. 333. Here formerly stood the pillory.

F. Mackenzie. J. Le Keux.

ST PETER LE BAILEY.

Published May 1st 1825, by J.H. Parker Oxford. C.Tilt. Fleet St.t London. & J. Le Keux Harmondsworth.



ST. PETER LE BAILY; OR, IN THE WEST.

THE foundation of this church, anciently called a 'monasterium,' like that of St. Martin and several others in Oxford, is beyond the reach of any records.

It belonged of old time to St. Frideswide's, and was one of the many churches confirmed to them by king Henry I. in 1122. Several chapels and chantries were added by different benefactors; for an account of which we must refer to Wood [z], as the old church is no longer in existence.

The ancient fabric fell down in 1726: but the present building was not completed until 1740; great difficulty being experienced in raising the necessary funds in the parish. A brief was obtained in 1727; but it produced little money: and of this, together with the rates, being found insufficient, the deficiency was supplied by subscription. Dr. Hole, rector of Exeter college, gave 100*l.* the earl of Abingdon 50*l.* and T. Rowney, esq. 50*l.* Mrs. Bowel gave the altar, and sir Thomas Munday the font. Daniel Flexney, a carpenter, erected the gallery at his own charges. About 1770 the four bells were sold for raising the tower; but this design was not carried into execution. It is scarcely possible to conceive any thing more heavy than the whole church [a].

[z] Peshall, p. 169; where four are enumerated.

[a] The renovated brass to the memory of sir William Loughborough, alias Northern, and dame Margaret his wife, was preserved by the care of Mr. Alderman Fletcher, and in 1772 affixed to the wall at the east end of the present church. The inscription upon it is, 'To the immortal names of William Northern, maior of this citie at the coronation of Richard II; and Dame Margaret his wife; interred both under the next marble 1383. The ever loyal citie Oxford renewe their acknowlegement to stand a perpetual mark of honour to so an-

At an early period this church was one of the most wealthy and flourishing in Oxford, being generally served by the Minorite friars, who were favourite preachers, and had a high reputation for sanctity; so that the money received for confessions alone amounted to a large sum: but before the reformation it had sunk into insignificance and poverty. At the dissolution of monasteries the advowson fell to the crown, and still continues in the royal gift.

The PARISH is bounded on the north by St. Michael's; east by St. Martin's, near the Cross Keys; south by St. Ebbe's; and west by St. Thomas's. In 1771 it contained 113 houses. In 1833 they had increased to 234, with a population of 1236, and the annual value of property rated to the poor was about 4,500*l.*

There were anciently three or four streets distinguished by the same name as the parish. The Great Baily[b], which extended from St. Martin's to St. Peter's Church, was divided by a row of butchers' stalls or shops, afterwards called the Butcher row, now generally Queen street. The North Baily comprised a part of the lane now called New Inn Hall lane. The Little Baily was the street which leads

cient benefactors 1667.' The original inscription of 1383 is preserved in Wood's MSS. and printed among Peshall's Inscriptions.

[b] The name of Baily, by which this church and parish are distinguished, is derived by Wood from Balliolum, a court of justice, which he says stood here in the Saxon times. There is still a court at York called the Bailey, and the Old Bailey in London is familiar. But the word Balliolum itself is a diminutive of Ballium, a fort, castle, mound, or prison. In ancient documents it is called St. Peter 'ad castrum.' The word 'Baille' in French is often used for an entrenchment. The 'Magnum Balliolum,' of which Wood speaks, was situated near the west end of St. Martin's Church, and in the churchyard, as appears from the register of Osney abbey, from which Wood gives this extract: 'In die S. Cuthberti in quadragesima facta fuit Portmanmot de Oxenford in Cœmeterio St. Martini,' &c. V. Peshall, pp. 158, 174.

from St. Peter's to St. Ebbe's church. The New Baily, the Lower Baily, or Castle street, was a continuation of the Great Baily, from the church to the ancient entrance of the castle; which was then on the south-west side opposite to the present entrance. A void plot of ground hereabout, consisting of two acres, called anciently the New Market, and used as a cattle market in the fourteenth century, falling into disuse in the reign of Henry VII. was let out in garden plots and afterwards built upon. V. Peshall, p. 160.

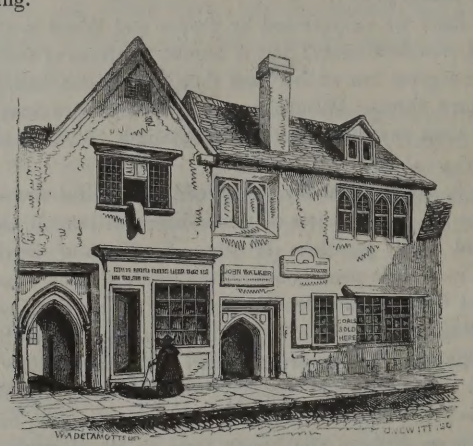
Frequent mention is made in old records of the mounts, sometimes called Jews' mount, which were thrown up at the time of the siege of King Stephen, and they are very distinctly marked on Agas's map, extending from near St. Peter's Church to the river not far from Hithe bridge. These mounts were afterwards built upon, and the houses in Bullock's lane, so called from a person of that name who built there in 1588, together with the canal office, stand on part of them. V. Peshall, p. 167.

Several halls are enumerated by Twyne and Wood in this parish; few having contained more: but as almost all traces of them were destroyed by a great fire at the time that Oxford was besieged by the parliamentary forces, Wood's account of this fire may be more acceptable than any discussion about buildings of which so little remains.

October 6, 1644. 'Sunday, happened a dreadful fire in Oxford, such an one for the shortness of time wherein it burned, that all ages before could hardly parallel. It began about two of the clock in the afternoon, in a little poor house on the south side of Thames street, (now called George lane,) leading from the North Gate to the High Bridge, occasioned by a foot soldier roasting a pig which he had then stolen. The wind being very high and in the north, blew the flames southward very quick and strongly, and burnt all the stables and houses, except St. Mary's college, standing between the back part of those which reach from the North Gate to St. Martin's church on the east, and those in the North Baily, commonly called New Inn lane, on the west; then all the old houses in the Bocher's row, which stood between St. Martin's church and the church of St. Peter's the Baylie, among which was a printing house, and the Will Office, newly translated from London by his majesty's command, it totally consumed. From thence it flew over the gardens and back yards to Penny-farthing street, all which, except the east end, it burnt. From thence to Beef hall lane, leading from St. Aldate's to St. Ebbe's church, which lane also, except the east end, it consumed. From

thence to Slaying lane, and some other houses between St. Ebbe's church and Water gate, and between that gate to Preacher's bridge, which were all levelled with the ground, and then the fire ceased[e].'

One hall however has escaped the ravages of the destructive fire before mentioned, being situated a little to the west of the line which it took, in the Little or lower Baily, about a hundred yards to the west of the church, on the south side of the street. It belonged to Oseney abbey, afterwards to Exeter college; being mentioned in a register of 1438 by the name of White hall; 'Pro aula alba in parvo Balliolo, magister Glaydon,' &c. There is a drawing of it preserved in the Bodleian library among Gough's valuable collections; which has been engraved by Mr. Skelton in his Oxonia Antiqua Restaurata, but is erroneously placed by him in the High street, in the parish of St. Peter's *in the East*[f]; and supposed to be no longer in existence: but an engraving is here given of it, as it now appears[g], from an original drawing.



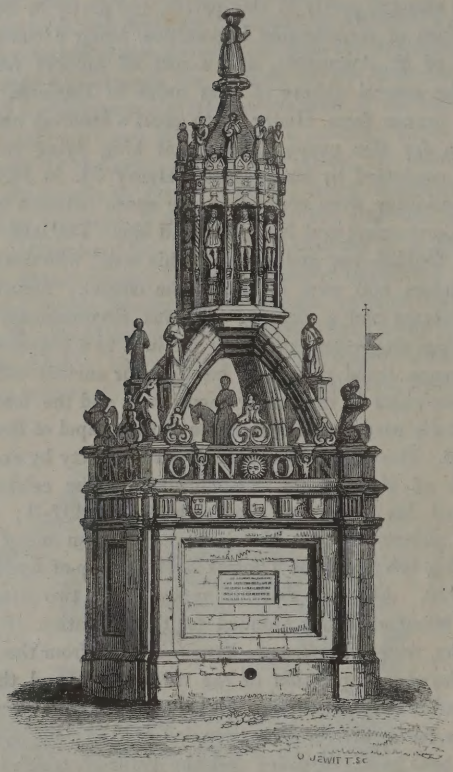
WHITE HALL; 1835.

[e] Annals, vol. ii. p. 473.

[f] This was a hall of the same name, situated between Queen's college and the east gate; near which were the halls of St. Catharine and St. George, as described by Wood, ap. Peshall, p. 74.

[g] One of the doorways appears to be of the 13th century. The other, though less ancient, has the arms of the Doilly family in one of the spandrels of the arch.

St. Mary's College, sometimes confounded with St. Mary Hall, was situated partly in this parish, and partly in St. Michael's. It was a place of considerable importance, being a college of regular canons of St. Augustine, and a sort of nursery for the novitiates of the several abbeys of that order in England. They had obtained a license from Henry V. to erect a building here, and purchase lands for this purpose; but that king dying suddenly, the licence was confirmed by his successor Henry VI. in 1435, and considerable buildings were erected in the space between what is now called the Cornmarket and New Inn Hall lane. The land was granted by Thomas Holden, esq. and Elizabeth his wife; who were considered as the founders, and were buried in the chapel. Mention is made also of a library and a cloister. Various circumstances shew, that these buildings altogether must have attained to a considerable degree of magnificence, equal to that of most of our ancient colleges. The chapel in particular is repeatedly mentioned, and the materials of it were eventually used in the foundation of the chapel of Brasenose college in 1656. The college had acquired this property by exchange with Henry earl of Huntingdon, 22 Elizabeth. The celebrated Erasmus pursued his studies at this college in 1497–8; and bishop Ferrar, the martyr in queen Mary's reign, had been one of the regular canons. The last prior was Thomas Beele, bishop of Lydda, who was living in 1520. After the dissolution there were two principals; but the college being expressly founded for the education of the Augustinian monks, does not appear to have recovered from the blow which it received by the suppression of the monasteries, and therefore fell into decay after the year 1556. There are still several remains of old buildings in the space formerly occupied by the college, which must apparently have belonged to it; and the gateway, which led into the cloisters, is still to be seen in New Inn Hall lane. The house and garden belonging to the Regius Professor of Medicine occupy a part of the site. It was bounded on the south side by a wall, which ran parallel with Sewy's lane, in ancient records called Sewy-*twychen*. This wall still remains; but the lane has been partly stopped up. Its name implied, that it formed a communication *between* Northgate street (now the Cornmarket) and New Inn Hall lane. See more concerning this college in Wood ap. Peshall, 186–7, and MSS. D. 2, 294; Tanner's Notitia Monastica, p. 400; Dugdale's Monasticon, vol. ii. p. 933; Stevens' Supplement, p. 2. 128–9.



See page 6.

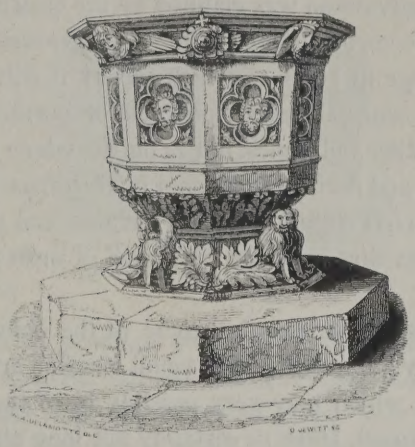
This singular structure, as it stands in Nuneham park, with the surrounding scenery, forms the subject for the Oxford Almanack of 1833; and its original situation may be seen by an excellent engraving from the original by Donowell, in Mr. Skelton's Oxonia, fol. 128. In the upper part was a large reservoir for water, and there was another over the porch of the old church of All Saints'. The pipes continue in tolerable repair, and many houses in Oxford are still supplied with water from the spring on Hinksey hill, which is very copious and never fails. Pointer, in his Oxford Guide, 1749, p. 177, has given a very ludicrous explanation of the obvious cipher, O. N. the initials of Otho Nicholson.

F Mackenzie. J.Le Keux.

ST ALDATE'S CHURCH.

Published Sept.1st 1835 by J.H.Parker, Oxford, C.Tilt Fleet St. London, & J.Le Keux Harmondsworth.

MEMORIALS OF OXFORD.



THE FONT [a].

St. Aldate's.

THE foundation of this church is of great antiquity. Wood supposes it to have been British, before the settlement of the Saxons or the Danes, and argues that neither of those people were likely to have built and dedicated a church in honour of one of their enemies; the saint whose name it bears being a Briton, who lived about 450, through whose means Hengist king of the Angles was defeated and killed [b]. Speed says it was founded or restored, probably rebuilt of stone, being previously of wood, in 1004. It subsequently belonged to

[a] This font is a very rich specimen of the style of the fourteenth century, and is in good preservation.

[b] Wood ap. Peshall, p. 144.

the abbey of Abingdon and the priory of St. Frideswide jointly, one moiety being confirmed to Abingdon by pope Eugenius III. in 1146[c], the other to St. Frideswide in 1122 by king Henry I[d]. At the dissolution of monasteries the advowson was claimed by the crown, and continued in the royal gift until Charles I. granted it to Pembroke college in 1636, to which society it still belongs.

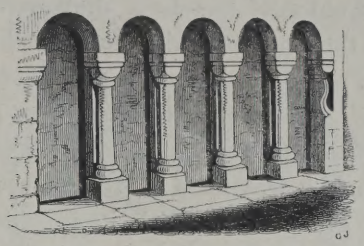
The present fabric is composed of portions of many different dates and styles, but is on the whole a venerable structure; and derives additional interest from the comparatively perfect state in which it remains, and the satisfactory account that has been preserved of most parts of the building.

THE CHANCEL contains some of the oldest portions, particularly an arcade of five small circular arches on the north side, which may very possibly be of the date mentioned by Speed, 1004, or certainly not long after the Norman Conquest. Over this arcade are the remains of two ancient windows, long since closed, and immediately to the east of them is a doorway of a later period, also closed. The east window is a modern repair, in bad imitation of

[c] Dugdale's Monasticon, vol. i. p. 107.

[d] For an amusing account of the manner in which these monks obtained their right over it, and their alternate presentations to the rectory, we must refer to Wood, (Peshall, p. 174.) who says that he derives his authority from the charters. It was called a 'Monasterium,' a term which we have before had occasion to observe was applied at that period to many churches belonging to monasteries, and served from them, as distinguished from those which were served by the secular clergy residing on their livings. This term has led Wood and others into the error of supposing that this church was connected with a seminary or place of education for these two monasteries. The 'Monasterium Aldati' of the Abingdon MSS. quoted by Wood and Tanner, from Twyne's Collectanea, appears to have no other foundation. Peshall, p. 145; Tanner's Notitia Monastica, p. 419.

the style of the fourteenth century. The roof has also been lowered, and is modern. The windows on the south side are square-headed, with perpendicular mullions relieved by some elegant tracery [e].



ARCADE IN THE CHANCEL.

THE NAVE presents no characteristic features; the roof being modern, and the arches on each side different, corresponding with the aisles to which they belong: it has however two noble arches, east and west, and two windows of different form and date. The south porch is a modern excrescence.

THE SOUTH AISLE, called the Trinity chapel in a rental of 1517, was built in the 9th of Edward III. by

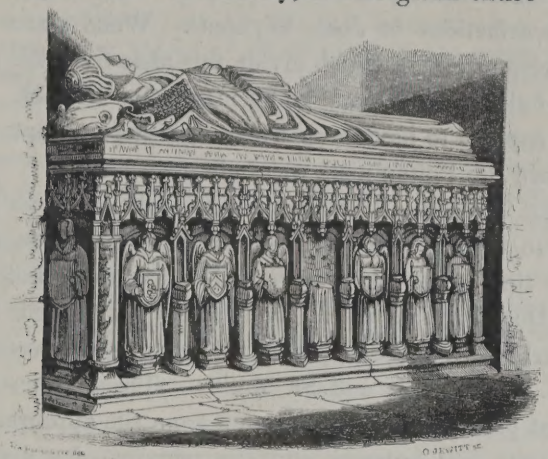
[e] On the north side of the altar is a very flat pointed arch of wide span, inserted under a circular-headed window now closed. The situation and form of this arch seem to indicate that it was used for the ceremony of representing Christ's resurrection from the holy sepulchre at Easter, a custom which is continued by the Roman Catholic church to the present day, and of which, traces are to be found in many of our old parish churches. A similar arch occurs in the same situation in St. Michael's and St. Giles's churches in Oxford; indeed few old churches of any magnitude are without them, although their use is not generally understood. (See Bloxam's Monumental Architecture, pp. 173–6.) On the south side of the chancel is a small chapel built in 1674 by J. West, esq. of Hampton Poyle, as a place of sepulture for his family: in it is a grotesque monument of himself, his wife, and daughter, in the bad taste of his age; but well executed. He left a small benefaction to the parish.

sir John de Docklington, a fishmonger, who had been several times mayor. The windows of this aisle are very elegant, and it must have been originally a fine specimen of the best style of Gothic architecture; but unfortunately the old roof has been destroyed, and a room built above, the floor of which cuts off the tops of the windows. The east window is also obstructed by the West chapel. The upper story has been long used as a muniment room for the archdeaconries of Oxford and Berks; though it was for a short time used as a library to Pembroke college[g]; the aisle itself being their chapel. Beneath this aisle is a vaulted crypt, long used as a charnel house; but lately cleared out and repaired. The aisle is divided from the nave by the original massive wall, which has been pierced with three acutely pointed arches of different sizes. On the opposite sides are corbel heads of Edward III. and his queen Philippa; which probably supported the luminaries of St. Peter and St. Paul. Beneath the large east window was an altar; the piscina, and a niche for a small figure of a saint, remain on the south side of the window. Wood also mentions the chantry of John de St. Frideswide, a native of this parish, and several times mayor, who left all his lands and revenues for the maintenance of the chaplain thereof about 33 Edward III.

In this aisle is placed a remarkably fine altar tomb of alabaster, to the memory of John Noble, LL. B. principal of Broadgates hall, and official of the archdeacon of Berks, who died in 1522. Of this we have given an

[g] According to Wood, it was divided into chambers some years before the great rebellion, and was anciently used as a civil law school, having divers books of that profession locked up in chests for the use of the scholars of Broadgates hall and other halls adjoining.

engraving. The inscription, being in some parts injured, and deciphered with difficulty, is here given entire [h].



TOMB OF JOHN NOBLE, 1522.

THE NORTH AISLE, originally called from its dedication St. Saviour's chapel, was built in 1455 by Philip Polton, fellow of All Souls' college, and archdeacon of Gloucester[i]; who subsequently instituted a chantry therein, and by his will, dated 1461, left certain tenements,

[h] 'Magister Joh'es Noble in legib' bacallarius quonda principalis aule latar' portar' et offic' archd'ni Bark': et obiit secudo die Junii Anno dni mill'o cccc°xxij. Cui' aie ppiciet' de' Ame.

O
Nuc xpe te petim' miserere qsque beisti
Redim' p'ditos noli dapnare redemptos.

Miseremini mei, miseremini mei. saltem vos amici mei. quia manus dni tetigit me.' The latter part is from Job, chap. xix. 21: 'Have pity upon me, have pity upon me, O ye my friends; for the hand of God hath touched me.'

[i] One Philip Polton, probably the same, is mentioned by Wood, as being principal of Polton hall, which he considers the same with St. John's hall. It was for legists, according to Rouse, and stood on the north side of the churchyard. V. Peshall, p. 154.

lands, and revenues, for the proper maintenance thereof. This endowment was increased in the following year by the benefactions of Joan Wylmott. Wood states that the octagon pillars which divide this aisle from the nave, were built in 1581: and so an inscription testifies. The nave appears to have been widened, either at that time, or when the Polton aisle was built.

THE TOWER AND SPIRE are of early character; but it is to be regretted that we have no information of the exact time when they were built; certainly not later than Docklington's aisle. The spire, with the four small pinnacles at its base, appears to be of an age between that of St. Frideswide's and St. Mary's. There is no staircase at present in the tower; but from the appearance of the north-east buttress, and the remains of a doorway opening into it from Polton's aisle, there can be little doubt that it formerly had one. This church was entirely new pewed and fitted up in 1832 at a considerable expense, which was defrayed chiefly by public subscription. It is done with good taste, neatness, and judgment. The singing gallery is placed in the tower; consequently is much less in the way, and less offensive to the eye, than such excrescences generally are.

This PARISH extends from St. Martin's on the north, to the old turnpike house, about a mile on the Abingdon road on the south; on the east, to Christ Church and the stream on the western side of the meadow, and to the parishes of St. Ebbe and Hinksey on the west: a part of the parish is consequently in Berkshire, and is called the liberty of Grandpont or Grampound. It includes parts of the ancient parishes of St. Edward, St. Frideswide, and St. Michael at Southgate.

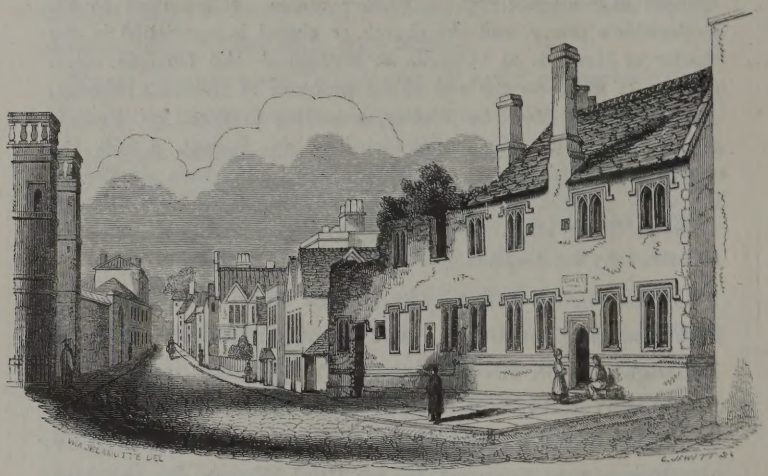
In 1771 it contained 147 houses: in 1833 this number had increased to 316. The population by the census of 1831 was 1789: and the annual value of property rated to the poor was about 8870*l.*

The ancient church and parish of St. Edward have been already mentioned in our account of All Saints', p. 13, the greater part of its extent being included in that parish: that of St. Frideswide is almost entirely included in the site of Christ Church: but that of St. Michael at Southgate requires further notice. It belonged to St. Frideswide's priory, and the church or chapel is mentioned in the charter of Henry I. as 'Capella S. Michaelis.' See Dugdale, vol. i. p. 174. It stood on the site of the professor of Hebrew's lodgings, and was pulled down by Wolsey, according to Wood ap. Peshall, p. 119, 195, 254. Wood also mentions, ap. Peshall, p. 256, the church of Dantesburne or Danesbourne, as having been situated in the south suburbs, near Southbridge, and given to Godstow nunnery by Ralph Bloet, about 1250. He gives the register of Godstow as his authority, but Dugdale does not mention it.

On the south side of the church stand Pembroke college and the almshouse; the former includes the site of Broadgates hall, once a place of considerable importance in the university, and several other halls, an account of which will be found in the notice of that college. The almshouse was founded by cardinal Wolsey on the site of some tenements which had belonged to the family of Segrim, burgesses of the city, and had been employed for academical purposes. But Wolsey being disgraced, as is well known, before his foundations were completed, this almshouse was left imperfect both in buildings and revenues [m]. King Henry VIII. afterwards endowed it out of the revenues of the college: giving the nomination of the almsmen to the dean of Christ Church, but subject to the royal approbation. It has been usual to appoint persons who have served either in the army or navy. The buildings remained in an unfinished state, having

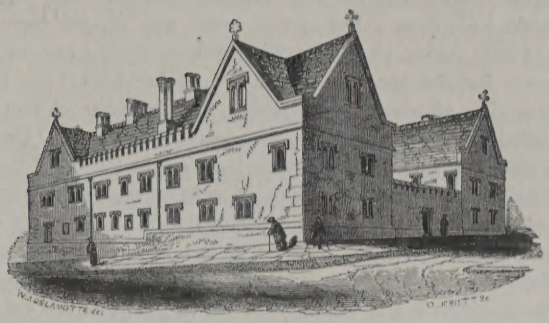
[m] Wood, ap. Peshall, p. 144.

the appearance of ruins, until the year 1834; when they were completed after a neat design of Mr. Underwood, at the expense of the dean and chapter of Christ Church, with a view to the great improvements projected in this part of the city.



THE OLD ALMSHOUSE.

The ancient Southgate stood between the south end of the almshouse and Christ Church, and was well fortified with towers on each side; whence the place where this gate stood, which was on a sharp declivity, was for a long period called Tower-hill. This has now been sloped off into a more gradual descent; but the marks of the former level may be clearly seen by the stonework at the base of the buildings both of Christ Church and of the almshouse at this point; and particularly from a doorway lately walled up.



THE NEW ALMSHOUSE, 1834.

STREETS.—The street which led from Carfax to Southgate, while the gate was in existence, was called Fish street; the fish market being held there; the lower part between the gate and the bridge being called by the same name with the bridge itself, 'Grandpont.' Both are now generally included in the common name of St. Aldate's, corrupted into St. Ole's and St. Toll's. The street leading from Fish street to St. Ebbe's church is called Penny-farthing street, from a wealthy family who resided there, of whom Wm. Penyverthing was provost of Oxon in the reign of Henry iij. about 1240: also Nicholas Pennyfader occurs as an inhabitant thereabout in the beginning of Edward j. Pinke-farthing street also is found in ancient records. A great improvement will be effected here by the removal of the old houses which have encroached upon St. Aldate's churchyard. Some of those on the east side have already been removed; but those on the north side will also require removal. The greater part of these tenements were appropriated to uses which have ceased to exist in law for 300 years. They are said to have been originally built on ground taken out of the churchyard for the use of the chantry priests, and were therefore called the Priests' houses. Between Pennyfarthing street and the Butcher row, there was anciently a lane called Kepeharme's lane, which led from Fish street, nearly opposite to Blue Boar lane, to another lane or alley called 'Kepeharme's Twychen,' as connecting two parishes, and leading from the Butcher row to Pennyfarthing street. This lane was so called from the family of Kepeharme, who were of great repute and wealth at the time of the Norman Conquest and for some centuries afterwards. See Peshall, pp. 195, 256. The lane immediately to the south of the almshouse led from

Southgate close under the city wall to Littlegate, and was called Lombard's lane, from a Jew of that name who resided there in the reign of king John; afterwards Slaying lane, from a general slaughter house for the butchers of Oxford having been built there in 27 Hen. viij; afterwards King street, from persons of that name; now called Brewer's lane, from a brewhouse built therein. On the opposite side, lower down, was Overee lane, or the lane over the water, near Christchurch backgate. Water lane is on the western side, considerably to the south of this, opposite the Wheatsheaf inn: it was formerly called Preachers' lane, being the way to the monastery of the black or preaching friars. It continued to be very swampy after rain until within a few years, when it was paved at the expense of Mr. Tredwell. Trill Mill Bow, and Denchurch Bow, were names formerly given to the two small bridges of one arch over the back streams which cross Grandpont street.

Academic HALLS were very numerous in this parish; but few traces of them remain: a large number were swallowed up in the site of Christ Church and Pembroke college; and the remainder have so long disappeared, that it is difficult even to point out where they stood. In Pennyfarthing street there were several. Wood mentions two, (Peshall, 154, 155,) of the name of Bolle or Bull hall, Aula Taurina: one at the corner of Fish street, another a short distance from it, so called from a family of that name, and given to Merton college by Edward iij. Several members of that college were principals of the latter, and it was used principally by legists, or law students. Moyses, Moses, or Mossey hall, so called from a Jew of that name in the reign of king John, was near to the last, and was given to Oriel college by Adam de Brom 36 Edward iij. Hinksey hall, so called from one Jeffrey de Hinksey, temp. Henry iij. belonged to Oseney abbey, and was situated in Fish street, at the corner of Kepeharme lane, and partly in that lane. This must have been a large and important hall, as we find mention in 1485 of an oratory for the scholars to celebrate service in, as well as of a refectory, kitchen, and buttery, and ten other rooms separately taxed. It was used by students in civil law. The New Inn now stands on the site of this hall. There are some ancient and extensive vaults with groined roofs of stone still in existence under the house occupied by Mrs. Grosvenor, which probably belonged to another hall.

Opposite to the east end of Pennyfarthing street was the Jews' synagogue, which after the expulsion of the Jews was granted by Edward I. to W. Burnell, dean of Wells, and brother of the bishop of that name. By him it was converted, with a tenement adjoin-

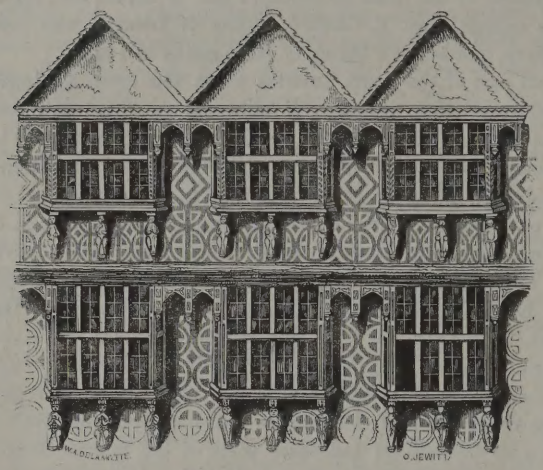
ing, into a hall for students, and given to Balliol college: it was then distinguished by the name of Burnell's inn, or Balliol hall, afterwards London college, from R. Clifford, bishop of London, who was educated there, and left it a legacy of 1000 marks in 1421.

In that part of the south suburbs which now forms the lower part of St. Aldate's street, were several halls, and there are still considerable remains of ancient buildings, some of which appear to have been of importance. To the south of the almshouse is a picturesque stone house of considerable antiquity, said by tradition to have been once occupied by Oliver Cromwell, when he came to Oxford with Fairfax in 1649.

Immediately to the south of the Trill Mill Bow, before mentioned, are the remains of a house said by tradition to have been occupied by Robert King, the last abbot of Oseney, and first bishop of Oxford: the part which faces the Trill mill stream, of which we have given a woodcut, standing near West's livery stables, and partly occupied by Mr. Randall, appears to have been either new fronted or repaired in 1628, as the brackets of one window bear that date; but the rich decorations of the ceilings and other parts of the interior seem to be the work of an earlier age, and correspond in a very striking manner with those of another old house about four doors south of this, with bay windows of stone; and in this lower house the arms of King are several times repeated in the ceiling of the room on the ground floor. From these circumstances, and the appearance of the back premises, we are inclined to believe that the whole originally formed one mansion, which was most probably built by Bp. King after the accession of Edward vj. when he was deprived of Gloucester hall, which had previously been assigned to him as his residence. The palace at Cuddesden was not built until near a century afterwards; and during the intermediate period the bishops of Oxford had no fixed residence.

This house was subsequently occupied by and belonged to Unton Croke, esq., who was a colonel in Cromwell's army; and member of parliament for the city of Oxford jointly with his brother sir Richard Croke, who was also recorder many years. His father, serjeant Croke, was deputy steward of the university from 1615 to 1641: and it is probable that he also occupied this property. An interesting history of the family has been published by sir Alexander Croke of Studley, from which these particulars are taken. There were eight tenements in this parish formerly belonging to Studley priory.

Water-hall, so called from its situation near the Trill Mill stream, which is mentioned by that name 21 Edw. iij. was the house now occupied by G. Hitchings, esq. Nearly opposite was Pope-hall, so called from Thomas Pope, who occupied it temp. Hen. iv.



PART OF BISHOP KING'S HOUSE.

Folly bridge, so called from the tower or folly which stood on it, was formerly called Southbridge. The first erection of a bridge on this spot is beyond all authentic record; but there certainly appears to have been a bridge here in the Saxon times, according to the opinion of our best antiquaries. Various particulars respecting the old bridge will be found in Wood ap. Peshall, p. 257. 259. The old tower which stood upon it, and was traditionally called Friar Bacon's Study, has been already mentioned in our account of the Observatory, where we have given an engraving of it. The present substantial bridge was built in 1825-27, under an act of parliament passed in 1815. The architect was Ebenezer Perry. The expense was defrayed by loans to be repaid by the produce of the toll gate.

The water-works and the wharfs adjacent to this bridge, erected in accordance with the recent alterations of widening the approach to it, are in a style worthy of the entrance to such a city as Oxford. We have many incidental proofs that the river was navigated so high as Oxford, if not higher, from a very early period. A kind of toll, payable to the monks of Abingdon, in the time of Edward the Confessor, is mentioned by Wood ap. Peshall, p. 259, which sufficiently indicates the fact; and that a considerable inland trade was carried on by means of the navigation of the river.

T. Mackenzie J. Le Keux

St. Ebbe's Church.

Published Sept.r 1.st 1835, by J.H. Parker, Oxford & 376, Fleet St. Hampton & Le Keux, Thornton Heath.

ST. EBBE'S.

ARCH IN THE VESTRY P.

THE foundation of this church is involved in obscurity. It is dedicated in the name of one of the Saxon saints, Ebba, abbess of Coldingham and daughter of Ethelfrid king of Northumberland; who died in 685.

But the first authentic mention of the church is in 1005, when it was given to Ensham Abbey, together with land and tenements round about it, by Alan earl of Cornwall, son of Æthelmer the founder of that abbey. This gift is recorded in the confirmation charter of Remigius, bishop of Lincoln, in 1070. It continued in possession of that abbey until the dissolution, when the advowson was consigned to the crown, to which it still belongs. The living was always a poor one, as appears from the valuations at different periods, and is so still.

The only remaining part of the old building is the

P The fine old Saxon or Norman doorway, which was carefully preserved, from a suggestion of the editor of this work, and afterwards reconstructed in the vestry under the direction of John Ireland, esq.

tower; and this is now so much surrounded by other buildings that it is difficult to ascertain in what style it is built: it is however evident from the interior that it is of great antiquity, being built of rubble, very massive, and having no staircase. The whole of the body of the old church was pulled down in 1814 on account of its dilapidated state; and the present church built on the same site in the course of the two following years, being completed and opened for divine service in 1816. Mr. W. Fisher was both architect and builder, and the work on the whole is very creditable to him. The want of a chancel has rather an awkward effect; but this is chargeable rather to the confined situation than to the architect. The font was given by the late Dr. Griffith, master of University college. The whole expense of the new church was about 3000*l.*

The boundaries of this parish are so intricate that we can only describe them in general terms, as we have been compelled to do in other instances. It is of considerable extent, reaching from the parish of St. Peter le Bailey on the north to the river on the south, and from Pembroke College and St. Aldate's parish on the east to the river again on the west, including the site of the ancient Friaries of the Dominicans and Franciscans, now built over.

In 1771 this parish contained only 106 houses, in 1835 the number had increased to 541 and is daily increasing. The annual value of property rated to the poor is about 7000*l.* and the population by the census of 1831 was 3123.

Littlegate was situated at the point where Brewer's lane joins Milk street. The remains of the city wall may be distinctly traced from the site of Southgate to Littlegate, part of the buildings of Pembroke college standing upon it. Westgate was situated at the junction of the two streets which run westward from the churches of St. Ebbe and St. Peter le Bailey.

THE MONASTERY OF THE DOMINICANS, called also Black Friars and Preaching Friars, was situated in an island formed by different branches of the river on the south side of the city; being separated from Brewer's lane by the stream called Trill Mill stream, and from Grandpont street by another branch of the same stream. These streams of water form a landmark not to be mistaken, and serve to identify the situation of the monastery when no other trace remains. A considerable part of this island is now occupied by Mr. Tredwell's garden, in which stone coffins have been dug up at different periods; a large arched sewer and other traces of ancient buildings have been found. A small house, said to have been the prior's house, is still standing. The Preachers' bridge, consisting of several arches built by these friars about the sixth of Edward i, formed the principal entrance to their domain from Littlegate.

These friars were called Dominicans from their founder St. Dominic, a Spaniard, who lived about 1070. They came into England in 1221, and had their first house at Oxford the same year: by the munificence of Isabel de Bulbec, widow of Robert earl of Oxford, this first settlement was in the Jewry, with a view to the conversion of the Jews; but finding their space confined in this situation, and having obtained a grant from King Henry iij. of the island beforementioned, they removed to it in 1259. Here they speedily built themselves, with the assistance of the pious, larger and more commodious premises, together with a church, which was dedicated to St. Nicholas in 1262, to which a south aisle, containing six windows, was added in 1426 by sir Peter Besills of Besills-Leigh, Berks. See Tanner, preface p. xxi. also p. 430; Stephen's Supplement to Dugdale's Monasticon, vol. ii. p. 203.

THE MONASTERY OF THE FRANCISCANS, Minor, or Grey Friars, was separated from that of the Dominicans on the south by a small stream of water, and on the west from Oseney Abbey by a similar stream. Their first settlement was in 1224 in houses and land in St. Ebbe's parish assigned them by 'Richard Milner le Mercer' and others, confirmed and enlarged by King Henry iij. who was their chief benefactor[s]. That king by his charter in the twenty-ninth year of his reign[t] granted them also for the greater quiet and security of their habitation that they might enclose the street that lies along the wall of Oxford, from the Watergate (Littlegate) in the parish of St. Ebbe to the little postern in the said wall towards the castle (Westgate); so that a wall with battlements, like to the rest of the wall of Oxford, be made about the dwelling, beginning at the west side of the aforesaid

[s] Tanner, p. 431 and xxi; Peshall, p. 267.

[t] Pat. 29. H. iii. m. 6, 9 et 10.

Watergate (Littlegate), and reaching southward to the bank of the Thames, and thence extending along the said bank westward, so far as the land of the abbot of Bec in the parish of St. Budoe, and then turning again to the northward till it joins with the wall of the aforesaid borough, by the east side of the aforesaid small postern (Westgate). A great part of the wall built according to this agreement is still in existence, or at least an old wall on the same site. He also gave them permission to pull down that part of the city wall included within this space, and a few months afterwards gave them a small island on the south side, separated from their house by Trill Mill stream. This island was planted with rows of trees according to the custom of the times, and at the dissolution is described as a very delightful grove.

Of the extent and magnificence of their buildings it is now difficult to form any just idea, as scarcely a trace has been left of them; but the dimensions of their church have been preserved by William of Worcester[x], from which we may form some notion of the rest. It was 158 of his paces[y] in length, of a proportionate width, and had ten chapels of six paces square on the north side of the nave, each containing a window of three days (or lights), glazed. In 1310 the house of the penitentiaries without Westgate being added to their former possessions, they extended to the Castle Mill stream.

At the general dissolution of monasteries under Hen. viij. these two houses of the Dominicans and the Franciscans, or the Black and the Grey Friars, as they were usually called, shared the common fate, and the whole of their magnificent domains, including land, buildings, and all appurtenances, were sold for the sum of 1094*l.* to R. Andrews, esq. of Hailes, in Glocestershire, and J. How, gent. The buildings were soon afterwards pulled down for the sake of the materials, which were sold piecemeal at a very cheap rate; unless we allow for the sacrilege of it, says Wood, ap. Peshall, p. 265. The site is at present occupied chiefly by modern buildings, even the small island being built over; the only part which has escaped being Paradise Garden, mentioned by that name in an inquisition A. D. 1221, which formed part of the gardens of the monastery without the walls.

[x] Peshall, from Willis's History of Abbeys, Addenda, vol. ii. p. 334. The celebrated Roger Bacon was buried here in 1292: as was Beatrix, the third wife of Richard, king of the Romans, the great benefactor of this and other monasteries, whose heart was deposited here.

[y] William of Worcester's paces are *two* feet instead of *three*.

F. Mackenzie. J. Le Keux.

MAGDALEN CHURCH, FROM BROAD STREET.

London, Published Sept.1, 1838, by J. H. Parker, Oxford, C. Tilt, Fleet Street; & J. Le Keux, Harmondsworth.

MEMORIALS OF OXFORD.

THE NAVE.

St. Mary Magdalene.

THIS CHURCH is said to have been originally built before the Norman conquest, by permission of the convent of St. Frideswide[a], and was probably an appendage to that monastery. It formed part of the magnificent grant of William the Conqueror to Robert D'Oily, and was soon afterwards given by him to the secular canons of his college of St. George, then newly founded in the castle which he had built. It remained in their posses-

[a] "It was built by the permission of St. Frideswide." Peshall, p. 224. This expression was probably intended to be applicable to whatever denomination of inmates were then in possession of the monastery.

sion about half a century, when Robert D'Oily the second transferred it together with the college, in 1129, to the abbey of Oseney. The canons of St. Frideswide disputed the right of this donation; but after a long contest it was confirmed by a bull of the pope. At the reformation it again shared the fate of its patrons, and was given by king Henry VIII, with the abbey of Oseney and all its possessions, to his college of Christ Church; to which society the patronage of the church still belongs.

Of the original church the only portion remaining at all perfect is a semicircular arch, with the zigzag moulding, which divided the nave from the chancel. It may be observed, that this portion and the doorway are very frequently the only parts of an old church which are to be found in any tolerable condition; and these are therefore often preserved in all succeeding alterations.

To this building so many additions have been made at different periods, that it is difficult to trace them distinctly: and this difficulty is increased by the peculiar situation of the structure between two streets[b], which has compelled such additions to be made on the north and south sides; until the length of the church has become greater from north to south, than from east to west: a peculiarity of feature, the unpleasant effect of which the late arrangements of the interior were not calculated to remove.

The first of these additions were the north and south AISLES, built by Hugh[c], bishop of Lincoln, about 1194.

[b] It is probable that there was only one street originally, leading directly from the north gate; and therefore called Northgate street in the time of Henry VI. when Bernard college was founded. The original church might consequently have extended farther eastward.

[c] St. Hugo of Burgundy, a native of Grenoble, who was brought over by king Henry the Second for his superior learning and sanctity.

The one on the south side of the church, which now forms the intermediate aisle between the nave and the southernmost chapel called "our Lady's chapel," was so altered when the Carmelites obtained the ascendency here, that very few traces of it can now be discovered; but in that on the north side there are small lancet windows, and other tokens of earlier architecture. The high-pitched roofs of these aisles still remain externally, but within they are concealed by flat plaster ceilings. The nave, though probably rebuilt in bishop Hugh's time, was again rebuilt in the early part of the reign of Henry VIII, when the tower was repaired and a new timber roof constructed. The east window of the original chancel appears somewhat later than the time of Hugh.

The north aisle, or a part of it, was repaired and fitted up about 1280 by Dervorgilla, the foundress of Balliol college, as an oratory for the use of her scholars. Hence it has been known by the name of Dervorgilla's aisle, or St. Catharine's chapel. The payment of 40*s.* per annum to St. Catharine's priest is mentioned so late as the time of Henry VIII, and the "mass book of St. Catharine" was "mended" in the 24th of his reign. The uniformity of this aisle [d], which must originally have

He also built a part of Lincoln cathedral, called the "New work," from the foundation; and being buried there, was canonized in 1220. His memory appears to have been so much respected, that even so late as 1562 there is an item for the ringers "on St. Hugh's day."

[d] A considerable space at the east end of this aisle, on the north side of the chancel, has long been divided from the church; the ground-room being used first as a vestry, and now converted into an engine house and a coal cellar; over which is the registrar's office for the diocese of Oxford, for which a small rent is annually paid to the parish. There is this entry in the parish accounts, dated May the 1st, 5 Edward VI. (1552.) "*Item*, received of Robert Dolley for the chamber over the vestry 7*s.*" The same was received in 1509. At the late alteration of the church, a brick wall was erected about

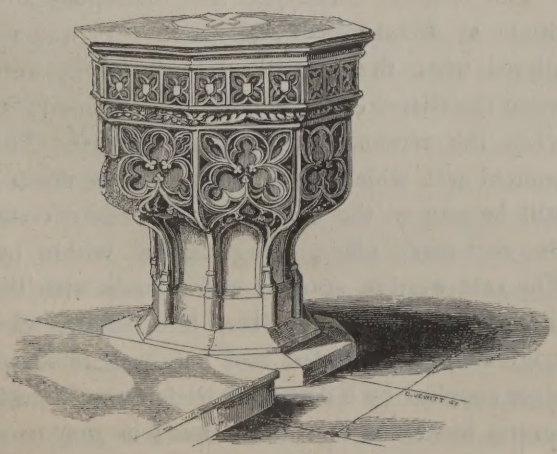
resembled some portions of St. Giles's, was entirely destroyed at an early period by inserting two large windows of different dates and styles; one corresponding with the windows of the southernmost aisle, the other apparently with archbishop Kemp's. This aisle, or the part dedicated to St. Catharine, was used by the scholars of Balliol college from their first foundation until 1293; after which Oliver Sutton, and other bishops of Lincoln in succession, granted them permission to celebrate divine service in their own oratory within the walls of the college; except on particular solemnities, when they were bound to attend in the parish church. This restriction was removed by Urban VI. in 1380[e].

ST. MARY'S CHAPEL.—The beautiful aisle on the south side of the church was begun, if not finished, in the reign of Edward II, being dedicated in honour of our lady of Mount Carmel by the friars of that order, to whom the said monarch gave his palace of Beaumont; and there can be little doubt that this chapel, traditionally called the "founder's aisle," was the original church of the Carmelites, and intended for their use by Ed. II, whom they called their founder. This fact has been hitherto overlooked, from the confusion of dates in Peshall's account, and from other circumstances. In the year 1337 it is mentioned as the "new chapel of St. Mary." There

three feet within the old one, in order to bring it into a line with the entrance to the chancel, which was bricked up at the same period. The wooden door near the west end of this aisle bears the date of 1645. The jambs of the doorway are probably of the same date, and a rude imitation of the Grecian or Roman style then coming into fashion; though the arch above seems ancient. The present appearance of the roof, or rather roofs of this aisle, might have arisen from three distinct chapels, as there are three short roofs; the two at the extremities being higher than that in the centre; but they have been so repeatedly altered that no certain inference can be drawn from them.

[e] See our account of Balliol college.

were proctors to keep the accounts; and the seal of the chantry was the crescent of the East surmounted by the star of Bethlehem. There was a distinct entrance to this chapel from the churchyard by steps, the floor of it being raised about three feet above the rest of the church, on account of the crypt beneath; but at the time of the late alteration the floor was made level, and the place of the crypt supplied by brick vaults. The separate entrance had been closed long before. The original roof had also been removed, and its place supplied by a leaden one, nearly flat, and several feet lower than before in the centre, cutting off the top of the west window. As the very elegant open parapet, and the whole front of this chapel, are in a bad state of repair, it is much to be wished that they may be carefully restored before it is too late. The figures which anciently filled the four niches have long been destroyed. There is said to have been a figure of the Virgin, and another of St. Hugh, standing on their respective pedestals. In this aisle is placed the ancient font, which is remarkably elegant.



THE FONT.

When this chapel was built, Hugh of Lincoln's work was perhaps in part removed; the adjoining aisle being reconstructed to accord with this, a new chancel formed, and the old one apparently converted into a confessional. It is difficult to account for the disproportionate size of the westernmost of the three arches which connect this chapel with the intermediate aisle: the mouldings of all three correspond so exactly, that it can hardly be supposed to be a subsequent alteration. The eastern part of this intermediate aisle was once a distinct chapel, dedicated to St. Thomas, with its separate altar under the large window, supposed to be of the time of Kemp's window at Merton, 1417, which it much resembles. This window was bricked up for a long period; but as the tracery remained perfect, it was judiciously reopened in 1826; previously to this alteration, the communion-table stood under it, with a heavy wooden altar-piece in the usual Dutch taste, improperly called Grecian. At the angle between this and the south chapel is an octangular turret, enclosing a staircase, whereby to ascend to the roof.

The original CHANCEL has undergone every vicissitude of architectural innovation. It was very much altered when the north and south aisles were added; when the chapel of St. Thomas was enclosed; and again, when the recent alterations took place. The acutely pointed arch which connected it with the north aisle may still be seen on the outside of the present vestry, and in the registrar's office, though closed within by a wall. The east window scarcely corresponds with the time of this arch, and must have been inserted afterwards. The original highly pointed roof has been removed, and its place supplied by a depressed leaden one, almost flat, and several feet lower than the former; as may be seen from the original gable which remains. This method of sub-

stituting leaden roofs has disfigured many of our ancient churches. The doorway on the south side is a later insertion, having a less acutely pointed arch. The remains of the confessional may be observed near it, marked by a cinquefoil arch, which has been clumsily filled up. This venerable chancel is now shut out of the church altogether, and has been long used as a vestry room.

THE NAVE.—The walls of the original nave have been pierced with two pointed arches, supported on octagonal columns, which must have been constructed when the side aisles were added; but seem to have been altered from their original character when the tower and roof of the nave were rebuilt. The wood work of the roof bears the character of the Tudor era, and was probably erected between 1511 and 1531; when considerable repairs and alterations were made, as appears from the parish accounts. The semicircular arch before mentioned, which divides the nave from the chancel, proves the antiquity of this part of the church; but the window above was evidently constructed after the removal of the ancient roof of the chancel.

THE TOWER.—This appears from the massive character of the lower part to have belonged to the original building, but it has undergone many successive alterations: the first of which was probably when it became necessary to pierce the north and south walls with arches opening into the side aisles; and as these correspond on both sides, they are probably of the same date. These arches are now filled up, but may be distinctly traced. The arch facing the nave, in which the organ stands, is very lofty and handsome. The lower window, fronting the west, as well as that at the end of the intermediate south aisle, corresponds with those of the southernmost

chapel, called the Founder's aisle. The upper part of the tower, and the roof of the nave, were rebuilt between 1511 and 1531 [f]. The "great bell" also was added so late as 1562. The elegant little figure of St. Mary Magdalene, the patroness of the church, represented in a niche on the west side over the lower window, the window itself, and the richly carved string-course beneath, are among the best specimens of sculpture and masonry in Oxford. The octangular turret, by which we ascend to

[f] There seems to be but a slight foundation for the belief, that the tower was built from the ground with materials brought from Rewley abbey. The sum paid to Mr. Parret "for a bargayne bowght at Rewley, of stone, timber, and other stuffe," was only twenty-seven shillings; and this was bought for another purpose, being entered in the accounts of the proctors of our Lady's chapel. Wood observes, that the proctors of this chapel bought a great deal of such stuff to repair their *tenements;* "perhaps," he adds, "when Rewley church was pulled down." About this period some great work was in progress: the tower was probably raised higher, and the nave *rebuilt,* 22 Hen. VIII. The notices of sums paid for the repairs of the fabric, its embellishments, furniture, &c. are very numerous. In 1517 forty pounds were bestowed in building—"ad ædificationem ecclesiæ." In the 31st of Hen. VIII. the *old organ* was taken down, and a new one substituted; and so late as 32 Hen. VIII. there is an item in the parish accounts for taking down a rood-loft at the Black Friars, with Mary and John, and the carriage of them "from the said fryars to our church." But in the fifth year of Edw. VI. eight tabernacles which were over the altars were sold out of the church, with the altars themselves; though Wood says they set up their altars again in queen Mary's reign. The oak chest, in which the "jewells" lay, which is very curiously carved, is still preserved in the vestry; and seems coeval with the inner door of the south porch, which it resembles much in character. It is mentioned in the parish accounts 25 Hen. VIII. The south porch is a later erection than the entrance door within; and the loft above appears from the parish accounts to have been built in 1513. This was a small chamber, called St. John's chamber, apparently used as a chantry, dedicated to that saint; which was removed among the late alterations: the walls remain, but the windows both of this and of the lower part of the porch have been long blocked up.

MAGDALEN CHURCH, FROM S^T GILES'S.

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the belfry, which from its lightness and elegance adds considerably to the effect of this structure as viewed from the north, appears to have been rebuilt from the foundation distinctly from the tower; the same mouldings not being continued round its sides which are observable on the adjoining fabric.

In the year 1826 the interior of the church was entirely altered, and fitted up afresh at a considerable expense. Galleries were erected on the north and west sides. That on the west is brought forward into the church considerably more than is necessary, and a space left behind it: the front of it might easily have been kept to the line of the tower. The communion-table was removed from the east end of the second chancel, and placed at the south-west angle of the southernmost aisle. The pulpit also experienced a corresponding change of situation. The original chancel, it should be observed, had been previously used as a vestry, and shut out of the church by a wooden partition. This partition indeed was now removed; but its place was supplied by a brick wall, and a stove for the introduction of warm air. On the whole, the church has certainly been rendered more comfortable and commodious; but we cannot commend the taste which directed the general plan of the alterations, and must regret that so good an opportunity of restoring the church to its former beauty and character was used to so little advantage.

The present organ, which is the third on record, was purchased by subscription in 1830, and placed in the large arch under the tower; the best situation that could have been chosen for it: and in this instance an example is shewn, which might be judiciously followed in many other churches similarly circumstanced.

The church was formerly encumbered by buildings on the north and south sides, but these have been happily removed by the commissioners under the Paving Act, as the leases expired; those on the south side about 1794, those on the north about 1820.

OLD HOUSES ON THE NORTH OF THE CHURCH, REMOVED ABOUT 1820.

THIS PARISH is one of the largest in Oxford, and is nearly a mile and a quarter in circuit. It is bounded on the north by St. Giles's; on the east by Holywell; on the south by St. Michael's and St. Peter's-le-baily; and on the west by that of St. Thomas. It is situated in the north suburbs of the city, and includes the whole of Balliol and Trinity colleges, with their gardens; nearly all St. John's, part of the old Clarendon building, the north side of Broad street, the greater part of George lane, Gloucester green with the city gaol, and the site of the ancient palace and gardens of Beaumont, now Beaumont street, St. John street, &c. The whole of the parish is

situated in the tract of land in early times called Beaumont, "de Bello Monte," which, together with the manors of Walton and Holywell, comprehended all the suburbs to the north of the city wall; but the former name was subsequently restricted to the palace erected there by Henry I. and the grounds attached to it.

STREETS.—Broad street was anciently called HORSE-MONGER street, from a market for horses granted by Henry I. to the priory of St. Frideswide, which was kept here. It was afterwards entitled Canditch, "candida fossa," from a clear stream of water in the ditch to the north of the city wall. The remains of the old wall are yet to be traced behind the houses on the north side of Ship lane. There were no buildings on the north side of this wall till the reign of Elizabeth; though it appears by the city registry of leases, there were small gardens and orchards between the wall and the ditch. But when the city had in 1589 purchased of G. Brome, esq. the royalties of North-gate hundred, the ditch was filled up, and houses were gradually erected on its site; which are now all held under leases granted by the city.

In this street, it is well known, the celebrated martyrs and eminent fathers of the church of England, Cranmer, Latimer, and Ridley, were burnt. The exact spot is usually pointed out by a transverse stone in the cross-way, opposite the door of the master of Balliol's lodgings, between it and a bastion of the city wall, which still remains nearly perfect at the back of the houses now inhabited by Miss Hoskins and Mr. Dudley.

GEORGE LANE was so called from St. George's hall, which formed the north-east extremity of the lane. This hall is mentioned under the name of Pyper's inn, in the reign of Richard II; St. George's inn in the time of

Henry VIII, and long afterwards. There was always a road or way leading from Broad street to Hythe or High bridge; but, with the exception of the George inn and a few houses to the west of it, it does not appear that there were at an early period any houses between the walls of the city and those of Beaumont palace; which latter formed the north bounds of Gloucester green: the intervening space consisted of irregular *hedges* and uneven ground, denominated Broken-hayes[g]. In the map of Oxford by Ralph Agas, which bears the date of 1578, there is no trace of an erection on the north side of the wall; though it is certain that enclosed gardens and a bowling green were there at that period, attached to the adjacent tenements in New-inn lane, access being had to them through a small postern in the wall. In 1587, Dr. Glazier built a house to the north-west of Bocardo; and his example was soon followed by others, who also held these suburban gardens. Soon after the city had purchased the manorial rights of North-gate, which included a property in the waste ground called Broken-hayes, buildings were erected beyond the city ditch, gradually forming the south side of George lane; and the corporation having in 1638 levelled the ground, and formed a square enclosure with a bowling green, now called Gloucester green[h], beneficial leases were granted to

[g] The inequality of ground, which gave to this part the appellation of Broken-hayes, is attributed to the celebrated siege of Oxford castle by king Stephen; when the fortress was obstinately and courageously defended for three months by the empress Matilda, and the palace of Beaumont was fortified for the residence of the king by throwing up these mounds, which answered the double purpose of defending the palace and attacking the castle. See Sharpe's Malmesbury, p. 608. and Gesta regis Steph. ap. Hist. Norm. Script. p. 958.

[h] The city gaol, built in 1789, now occupies a great part of this space.

induce the erection of tenements adjoining that green, to form the north side of George lane. It was stipulated that these should be "good handsome dwelling houses, set up after such manner, form, and fashion, as the mayor, assistants, and bailiffs, should prescribe." Such houses were there commenced in 1642; but the public dissensions preventing the progress of them, the street was not perfectly formed till after the restoration[i]. Several of the ancient houses here afford good specimens of the domestic architecture of that period; and there are remains of others in Gloucester green, and Friars' entry.

On the west side of Broken-hayes and Beaumont palace was STOCKWELL street, "magnus vicus de Stockwell," so called from Stoke well, or Stock's well, which also went by the name of Plato's well, and Cornish chough well. This street led from Walton manor house or farm towards the castle, and appears to be the same with that in which the University printing-house and the row of houses called Walton-place have recently been built.

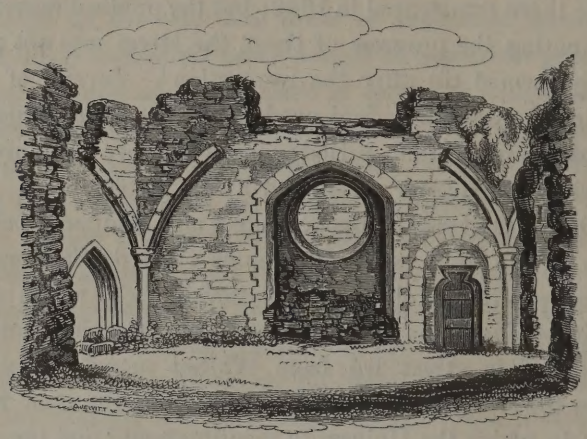
IRISHMAN'S street, so called from the number of Irishmen studying there, was partly in this parish and partly in that of St. Thomas. It was situated between Stockwell street and the castle, and formerly had a stone with a cross on it to mark the division between the two parishes.

BEAUMONT street[k] and St. JOHN'S street, which were

[i] The Independent dissenters have lately built a chapel in this street; the front elevation of which, with some exceptions, is much to be commended for its elegance; being in imitation of the purest style of that architecture, which some writers designate as exclusively Christian. We rejoice to see such signs of good taste spreading among all classes of society, of whatever religious denomination.

[k] There was anciently another street called Beaumond, or Beaumont street, which led from Smith gate and Cat street to the fields of Beaumont; but as it now leads into "the Parks," it has recently acquired the appropriate appellation of PARK street.

commenced in 1828, and are scarcely yet completed, occupy the site of the ancient PALACE of BEAUMONT; some fragments of which were standing not long since on the north side of Beaumont street, about a hundred yards from Worcester college.



REMAINS OF BEAUMONT PALACE, AS THEY APPEARED IN 1800.

This PALACE was built in 1132 by king Henry I, called Beauclerk from his fondness for learning; that he might have full opportunity of watching over the prosperity of the university, and enjoying the society of its members, far more congenial to his disposition than that of the rough barons of his age. Henry II. frequently resided in this palace in the early part of his reign, and his son Richard I. was born there; on which occasion there were great rejoicings. It continued to be the frequent residence of the kings of England until the time of Edward II, who gave it to the Carmelite, or White friars[1], in consequence of a vow made during his wars with Robert Bruce.

[1] Even after it was occupied by the Carmelites, many of the suc-

HALLS.—These were so numerous here, as in other parishes, that we can only briefly enumerate the names and situations of the most important, so far as they are known, and are not included in the limits of any college; more particularly those of which there are any remains.

St. Mary Magdalene hall, or Maudlen hall, mentioned in a will of the date of 1451, is said to have stood on the north side of the church, and to have been one of the houses removed by the commissioners under the Paving Act; it must therefore have been distinct from any of the more celebrated halls of that name. This leads us to remark, that much confusion arises from the frequent mention of distinct halls bearing the same or similar names, though situated in different parishes: the same hall is also often described by many various names at different periods, from its successive owners, the word *hall* being in early times synonymous with inn, mansion, or house.

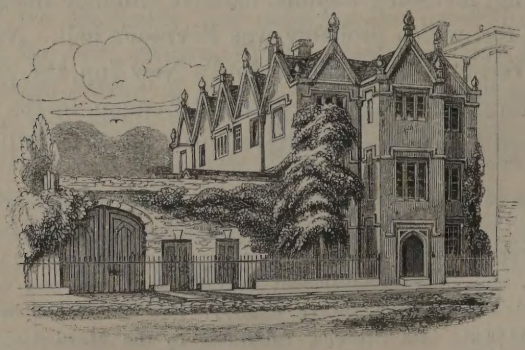
Peyntor's hall, or Culver hall, mentioned in 1361, was situated between George lane and Friars' entry, near to a place called Goose court. On the south side of Friars' entry, near the east end, are the remains of a large stone building, including a gable, massive chimney stacks, windows, &c. which probably was Peyntor's hall. Near this was Oxenford hall, or Oxenford's New Inn, the property of John de Oxenford, a citizen of London, in the 21st of Edward III, who soon afterwards sold it to William of

ceeding kings are said to have made it their residence, when they visited Oxford. Henry VI. is particularly mentioned as having resided here for some time. There is a good account of the Carmelite Friars, and their establishment in Oxford, in the new edition of Dugdale's Monasticon, vol. vi. p. 1577. See also Wood by Peshall, pp. 235-238; and Stevens, Additions to the Monasticon, vol. ii. pp. 177-183.

Wykeham. Wood speaks of such hall or inn standing in his time on the north side of Friars' entry, almost opposite to the west end of Magdalene church. The house and shop of Mr. Coles, coachmaker, and those of Mr. Floyd, currier, are on the site of Oxenford's hall or New Inn, and were lately sold to the occupiers by New college.

Kettel hall still remains on the north side of Broad street; built in 1615 by Dr. Ralph Kettel, president of Trinity college, for the use of students, on the site of an ancient hall called Perles, and by corruption Perilous hall; "Aula Periculosa;" mentioned by that name so early as the reign of Edward I. It was so called from a family of the name of Perles, or Peverells; many of whom occur in the Testa de Nevill.

Brackley hall, Great Bodyn hall, Deep hall, Bryd hall, and Well hall, are also mentioned as standing formerly on the north side of this street. The two first of these belonged to Magdalene college, as part of the property of St. John's hospital, but have been since conveyed to Trinity college. They were all formerly inhabited by students.



KETTEL HALL; BUILT IN 1615.

ST GILES'S CHURCH.

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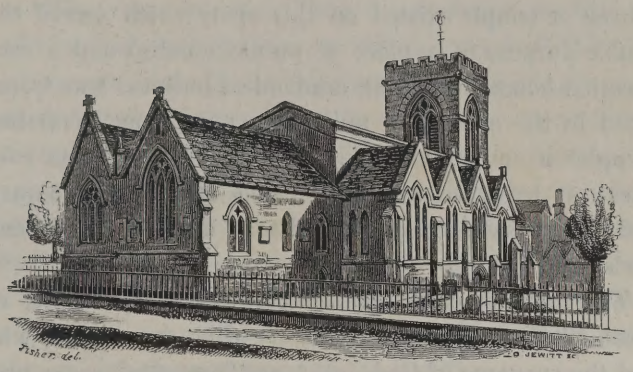
MEMORIALS OF OXFORD.



EXTERIOR VIEW OF THE CHURCH; N. E.

The Church and Parish of St. Giles.

THE CHURCH.—This ancient edifice, dedicated to St. Giles, forms one of the most interesting subjects in this department of our Memorials.

Leaving to more poetic pages the discussion of the traditionary tales of Greeklade and Bellositum, the Meditullium of Rhedycinian ROME, with its labyrinths and subterraneous passages of stupendous magnitude, the Campus Martius, divided into several portions according to scholastic degrees[a], and all other classical reminis-

[a] Wood appeals unfortunately to a charter of Hen. IV. in which he finds lands described 'in Bello Monte in Stadio vocato Midle Bradmore,' &c. This he translates, in conformity with his classical predilections for the 'Campus Martius,' the '*Race* called Middle Bradmore.' But the word, it is presumed, means nothing more than Middle Bradmore *furlong*. The lands are minutely described in the Hundred Rolls, p. 811.

cences of early days, which require only conjecture on one side, and credulity on the other; enough still remains to occupy our attention, and engage our research.

Whether in Roman, British, or Saxon times[b], any church or temple existed on this spot, which served the double purpose of a place of public worship and a convocation-house; where all academical business was transacted in the aboriginal university, must now be matter of opinion and speculation. But from the Norman conquest, at least, we can with some degree of accuracy and continuity develope the history of this church and parish.

The earliest account of the CHURCH is by Rouse, or Ross, of Warwick; who tells us, that one Alwin, who had the surname of Godegose[c], and possessed some property in the manor, erected the original fabric about the time of the conquest; though it does not appear to have been dedicated to St. Giles till the year 1120[d]. Indeed an interval of fifty years may well be supposed to have elapsed, in those unsettled times, between the projected

[b] If the reader wishes for further information on this curious subject, he will at least find some amusement in consulting Wood's Annals, by Gutch, vol. i. pp. 1—32; Brian Twyne's Apology, p. 118. Hearne, in his edition of Leland's Itinerary, Oxford, 1745, vol. ii. p. 109, 110, and the authorities there quoted.

[c] This is an intermediate spelling between the Saxon Godegehuſ and Godhos, or Godhus, a name which occurs more than once in the Hundred Rolls. The name of Alwin is found in Domesday among the householders of Oxford. One is distinguished by the addition of 'Presbyter.'

[d] Wood imagined, that the dedication day and St. Giles's day were distinct anniversaries: and so they were, unless the first of September happened to fall on a Sunday; and even then perhaps, according to the general rule, the feast of the dedication was held on the Sunday after the saint's anniversary. The modern fair is still guided by the same rule; being in memory of the dedication of the church.

design and the completion of a public edifice of this kind. A considerable difference is also observable between the rude arches in the interior of the tower and that which opens into the nave.

'The revenues,' says Peshall, 'at first arose from the offerings of pious persons, to which a great addition was afterwards made by the inhabitants of Walton, who gave all their tithes, belonging to the said village, to remain for ever to the said church.' The founder is said to have appointed a clerk to perform divine service here; but some difficulties having arisen, the right was confirmed by king Henry I. and the bishop of Lincoln; who issued a mandate to the archdeacon, empowering and commanding him to induct Edwin, the son of Alwin before mentioned, into the possession of the benefice.

The same pious founder, to whom the undoubted patronage of the church belonged, about eighteen years afterwards, 1138, when the dedication of the nunnery of Godstow took place, bestowed the advowson with all its appurtenances for ever upon that religious house [e]. This grant was confirmed by the charters of the empress Matilda and her son, Henry II.

Hugh of Grenoble, bishop of Lincoln, commonly called St. Hugh, about the year 1200 [f], instituted a vicar in

[e] See Dugdale's Monasticon, vol. i. p. 526, where this gift is recorded in the original charter, accompanied by some land on the 'opposite side of the city, nearest to Abingdon.'

[f] Peshall by mistake, or error of the press, says 1300. We have already mentioned St. Hugh in our account of St. Mary Magdalene Church, p. 2, 3. He was considered so great a benefactor to this church and parish, that mention is made of ringing the bells here on St. Hugh's day so late as the reign of queen Elizabeth as in Magdalene parish. He probably contributed to the enlargement of both churches, as he had a great taste for architecture.

this church, who was to receive by endowment the whole tithes of the gardens in the parish, &c.; the nuns of Godstow agreeing to sustain all ordinary burdens, except synodals; which the vicar, according to custom, was obliged to pay.

In this manner things remained till the dissolution of religious houses; when by letters patent 37 Hen. VIII. the rectory and chapel of St. Giles, with all the tithes and appurtenances, as part of the possessions of Godstow nunnery, were conveyed to John Doily and John Scudamore; who soon afterwards transferred all their right and title therein to Dr. George Owen of Godstow, the king's physician. From his son Richard, it passed 15 Eliz. together with the manor of Walton, which included part of Beaumont, to sir Thomas White, the munificent founder of St. John's college; who settled it for ever on his new society.

The Church is in that interesting style of architecture, generally, which marks the transition from the circular arch to the pointed. The oldest portions of the fabric have all the characteristics of the former style, though most of the arches are pointed. We frequently find circular and pointed arches used in different parts of the same building at this period, without any reason to suppose that they are therefore of a different date. But there is so striking a difference between the circular and pointed arches of this structure, that there is reason to believe, from this and other circumstances, that certain portions of the tower are considerably older than the nave and side aisles. The pointed arch is supposed to have been not generally adopted in this country before 1150; but there appears some reason to believe that it was occasionally introduced long before, especially as instances

are to be found of its use in Normandy even before the year 1000: and it is allowed by the best Norman antiquaries to have come gradually into use in that country, between 1050 and 1150[g]; a whole century being required to establish so prominent a departure from the universally received principle of the circular arch.

The Tower is evidently the oldest part of the present fabric. It is built of rubble and small stones united by a strong cement, and tied by quoins of masonry in a very substantial and durable manner. The whole is massive, particularly the lower part. On the north and south are two plain and acutely pointed arches, supported on square piers: on the west is a window of the lancet form: and on the east a lofty pointed arch, opening into the nave, supported on two massive circular columns; the capitals and bases of which closely resemble the earliest of those in the cathedral of Christ Church.

In the middle story, under the belfry[h], are four circular-headed windows of very rough workmanship, though filled on the outside with cut stone of much later date, and made to appear like mere eyelets, square at the top; one of these windows looking towards the nave, but now closed, is on a higher level and shorter than the other

[g] See a valuable essay on the architecture of Normandy by M. de Caumont, translated in the Crypt, vol. ii. p. 74; and Mr. Bold's History of Architecture, p. 116. The last named work has received the sanction of the society of Antiquaries of Caen.

[h] The accounts of the churchwardens of this parish (formerly called procurators) are still extant, and in good preservation, from the year 1492 to the present time. In 1496 there are sundry charges 'for the making of the stepoul flors.' In 1522 this entry occurs; 'For destroying the elder-tree upon the steeple, 4*d*.' In 1520, 'Paid to the carpenter, 43*s*. 4*d*.; and to the plumber, for casting the leads and laying them, 20*s*. 1*d*.' These were most probably for the roof of the tower and the partition-floor under the belfry.

three. This circumstance has evidently arisen from the roof of the nave originally reaching only up to this point. In the upper story of the tower are four larger windows, each of two lights, divided by a mullion, under a pointed arch; but, instead of the usual trefoil or quatrefoil in the head, there is a mere eyelet, as before. This upper part of the tower is clearly therefore of later date than the lower part. There are no traces of a stone staircase; which there would have been, if the tower had been originally built to its present height from the foundation.

The NAVE[i] is divided from the side aisles by pointed arches supported on light cylindrical columns, with plain capitals in the Norman style: those on the north side not exactly corresponding with those on the south. The clerestory on the south is evidently a modern addition; and the marks of the ancient roof may still be traced. The present roof is of the same height as the one which immediately preceded it; though lower than a previous one, as is shewn by the gable. The windows of the clerestory are square without; but there is a slight point in the flat arch over them within.

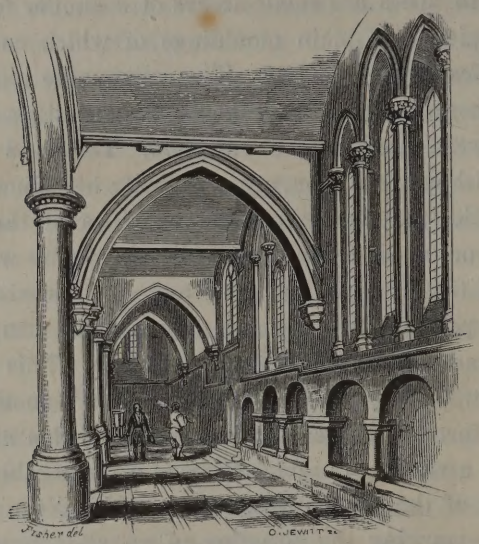
The CHANCEL is of early character, corresponding with the tower, though the window at the east end is of somewhat later period. On the south side is a large arch of a circular form, but of remarkably large span in proportion to its height; and in the wall of the south

[i] In the years 1538, 1563, 1627-8, 1637, are various charges for repairs. It was probably at this latter period that the roof of the nave was lowered to its present level. In 1650 are some entries, shewing that repairs were then going on. In 1659, April 3, is an account of a collection by the women of St. Giles's parish, towards the repairs of the church, 'being in great decay in the time of the war.' The sums amount to 17*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.* and the names of the collectors are given.

and north aisles are small arches of a similar form: the square piers and plain mouldings of which correspond, and indicate an early date. The communion rails, which are elaborately carved, probably from designs of Inigo Jones, were placed here about 1630. The arms of Laud, when bishop of London, are repeatedly introduced.

The SOUTH AISLE has six windows of the earliest pointed or lancet form, and one of two lights with some elegant tracery: at the east end of this aisle is an acutely pointed arch opening into a small chapel, with two square headed windows of late date. This was probably St. Mary's chantry: beyond which is another small chapel, forming the eastern extremity of this aisle, now used as a vestry; in which there is a remarkably elegant window of the age of Edward I. or II. Near this is a piscina, marking the situation of an altar beneath the window. This perhaps was St. Catharine's altar[k].

[k] In the parish accounts of 1524, 15th Henry VIII. is a charge 'for timber and workmanship of the three altars, and for boarding of the workmen.' 1551, 6th Edward VI. 'the high altar pulled down and the painted windows, and 16*s.* bestowed on other windows.' 1553, 1st queen Mary. 'For setting the altars, clay, lime, boards, nails, and tapers. For a mass-book, 2*s.* 8*d.* For a cross, a pyx, and a chrismatory box, 8*s.*' 1556. For hallowing the altars; for painting a cloth for 'St. Catharine's altar, xx*d.*' This altar is frequently mentioned in the parish accounts; and the collection made on St. Catharine's festival is called 'St. Catharine-ship.' Various sums are recorded as received under this head, till about the year 1536; after which the item does not appear. It appears also that one of the chapels or chantries was dedicated to St. Christopher, as in 1492 we have this charge: 'To Thos. Browning, for making of St. Christopher's foot, 7*d.*' Many contributions, in rent charges and otherwise, to the mass of St. Mary, as well as to the fabric of the church, are recorded in the Hundred Rolls, 6, 7 Ed. I. But Wood notices, that 'no rents of houses came in after the alteration of religion.' Among items of expenditure in the year 1503, is a charge of 9*d.* 'for wax for the queen's dirge,' and 'for bread and ale to the



THE NORTH AISLE.

The NORTH AISLE appears to have been originally a distinct chapel, or perhaps more than one, with a separate entrance from the churchyard. The three western windows are plainer than those to the eastward, but of similar form and character; the double or triple lancet under a common arch: two of the three in the eastern division being more richly ornamented, and much resembling those in the Chapter-house at Christ Church. Beneath these windows is an arcade of five semicircular arches, at unequal distances; two being divided by square piers, and two by circular columns. At the end is a piscina, marking the situation of another altar; perhaps St.

ringers.' There was also a contribution of 3*d.* 'for lygth' (*lights*; Wood says, *links*) 'to the queen's dirge at S. MARIE church.' Vide Wood's MSS. in the Ashmolean Museum, D. 2. 350; and the parish books from which Wood made these extracts.

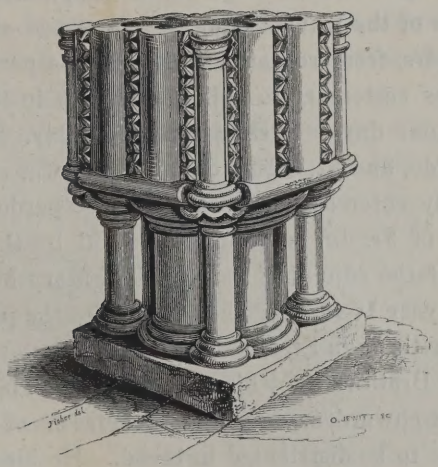
F. Mackenzie. J. Le Keux.

THE RADCLIFFE INFIRMARY.

Published March 1.1834, by J.H. Parker, Oxford, C. Tilt, Fleet Street, & J. Le Keux, Harmondsworth.

Christopher's. At the opposite extremity lie the remains of Dr. Richard Rawlinson, the founder of the Saxon professorship: near which are two ancient slabs of free-stone; being gravestones of the 13th century.

The FONT, which stands near the west end of this aisle, is square; of an elegant and uncommon design. It rests on a large central column, with slender columns at each angle, and is ornamented on every side by broad mouldings, running perpendicularly, and divided by rows of double zigzag, or chevron work; similar to the ornament at St. Cross and other places, which Dr. Milner considered as representing the inverted cup of a flower. The accompanying woodcut gives an accurate representation of it.



THE FONT.

The PORCH is of the early pointed style; both doorways being of an elegant form, and well executed. They seem to have been more injured by violence than by

time. In the churchyard, nearly opposite to this porch, is a venerable table-tomb of freestone, much decayed, to the memory of some person unknown; the sides of which are ornamented with bold quatrefoils, having rosettes in the centre. This is supposed to be the tomb, behind which a person secreted himself in Cromwell's time, to avoid some soldiers who were pursuing him; and, thus eluding them, he escaped with his life.

There was much painted glass in the windows of this church, as in many others in Oxford; which was probably destroyed in 1551, when the altars were removed; as there is a memorandum in the parish accounts, that 16*s.* were bestowed in glass windows in that year. This of course was for the plain glass substituted in the room of the other, which was displaced in compliance with the ordinances of the REFORMERS.

It appears, from repeated entries in the parish books, that it was customary to collect offerings in the church on particular days: such as, Good-Friday, Hocktide[1], Whitsuntide, and St. Giles's day. There was also a sum occasionally entered under the head of 'pardon-money.' The sum of 3*s.* 4*d.* was annually paid by the churchwardens of the adjoining parish of St. Mary Magdalene, about the year 1635, 'for the clearing of the passage for their water through St. Giles's parish.'

Richard Brathwaite by his will, dated 1643, bequeathed to the churchwardens, vicar, and overseers of St. Giles, 5*s.* a week to be distributed in bread. He also left 20*l.* per annum out of the hundred and manor of Ringwood, for a sermon to be preached in St. Giles's church every

[1] Vid. Spelman's Glossary, under 'Hocday;' M. Paris, A. D. 1255—1258. It was the second Tuesday after Easter; the 'quindena paschæ' of the lawyers.

reford, who was several times mayor, gave certain revenues derived from this hall, to his chantry in All Saints' church. In 1486 it was given by Joan Gille to Rewly abbey, and after the dissolution was sold to St. John's college; to which society it still belongs. The greater part of the present building appears to have been erected in the early part of the seventeenth century: it has lately been restored, and a north wing added by its worthy occupant, Mr. Joseph Parker.

ST. MARGARET'S HALL, not the only one of that name, was demised in 1326, 19th Edward II. by Margery Dyne, abbess of Godstow, to Walter Weston.

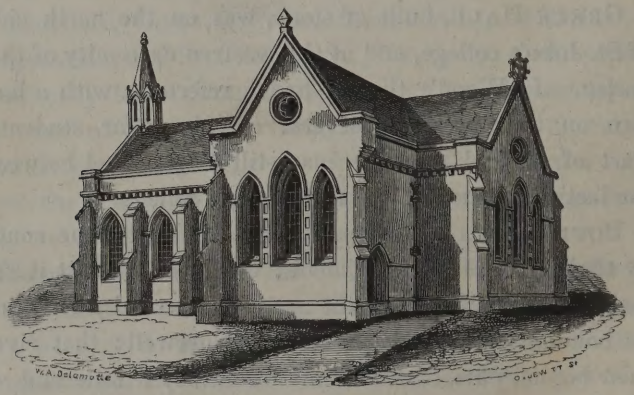
MIDDLETON HALL, belonging also to the nunnery of Godstow, was demised by the same abbess four years afterwards, 4th Edward III, to J. Cudding. The present fabric bears the date of 1663 in the spandrels of an elliptical arch on the staircase. It is now the residence of Mr. Perceval Walsh.

GREEK HALL, built of stone, was on the north side of St. John's college, and at the western extremity of this parish. In Wood's time it had a refectory, with a lantern on the roof, and several chambers for students. Part of the old premises may still be observed between the last mentioned hall and St. John's college.

BOUNDARIES.—This parish is bounded on the south by that of St. Mary Magdalene; on the south-east it extends to the Parks; from the northern extremity of which its boundary line proceeds to the Cherwell: that river then becomes its eastern limit for nearly a mile and an half. On the north the line extends to the parish of Wolvercot and the hamlet of Cutslow; on the west it is bounded partly by a branch of the river Isis, near the

canal, but principally by Port Meadow[u], and the fields adjacent. It is nearly six miles in circumference.

In the year 1773 there were only 115 houses in this parish: since that time the number has been enlarged considerably, being now above 600; and it is daily increasing. The parish has been recently inclosed. The entire population at the last census was 2,491, and the annual value of property rated to the poor is about 14,000*l.* including Summertown. A new population has lately arisen in this latter suburb, and a district church was erected in 1833 at the expense of 1600*l.* which was raised by public subscription, aided by the church-building society and St. John's college, who engaged to provide the officiating clergyman. The design was furnished by Mr. Underwood. It contains seats for 400 persons, of which 300 are free; and is dedicated in honour of St. John the Baptist.



SUMMERTOWN CHURCH.

[u] That is 'the Town Meadow;' the same which is recorded in the Domesday Survey, as the pasture belonging in common to the burgesses of Oxford; fol. 154. 2.

F. Mackenzie. J. Le Keux.

HOLYWELL CHURCH.

Published Feb.1st 1835, by J.H.Parker, Oxford & C.Tilt, Fleet St. London. & J. Le Keux, Harmondsworth.

MEMORIALS OF OXFORD.

EAST VIEW OF THE CHURCH AND MANOR HOUSE.

Holywell.

THE Church of Holywell is, correctly speaking, only a chapel belonging to the church of St. Peter in the East, and dedicated to the holy cross. It was built, or reedified, soon after the Norman conquest, by Robert D'Oiley[a], the first of that name; who rebuilt the castle, and several churches in the city and suburbs. For its subsequent history we refer our readers to our account of the mother church, whose fate it has regularly followed.

The present structure appears to be partly the work of D'Oiley, though with some considerable additions and alterations. The ground plan, as in all his churches, and most others of the same period, is a simple oblong; with the exception of a small chapel on the south side. The nave is about fourteen yards long by a little more than seven wide; and the chancel nine yards long by four and a half. The arch which connects the nave and

[a] Peshall, p. 251.

chancel is of the circular form, resting upon square piers with an abacus of two members only, ornamented with the star-moulding. On the south side of it is another arch with a circular head opening into the Lady chapel, over which is a gallery. At the west end is a tower of moderate height and dimensions, containing six bells; on some of which is the date of 1620. The belfry part was rebuilt about the year 1464 by H. Sever, warden of Merton, who appears also to have built or repaired some other parts of the church. The large window at the east end of the chancel [b], as well as some others, may be ascribed to him. The old belfry window is of lancet shape.

The parish or liberty of Holywell [c] is bounded on the south, beyond Magdalene Grove, by the parish of St.

[b] On the north and south sides of the tower are large acutely pointed arches, which have every appearance of having been intended to open into side aisles. The chapel on the south side near the entrance of the chancel has an arch which connects it with the nave, and part of another in its eastern wall, of early character. On the north side immediately opposite to it, the marks of a large arch may be distinctly seen in the masonry both on the exterior and interior. The porch has the date of 1592 cut in the stone over the door, together with three shields, containing the arms of Merton college, and the initials R. H. and W. M. In the churchyard was buried Thomas Holt, architect, of York; who gave the designs from which the Bentleys built the Schools, Merton inner quadrangle, &c. He died Sept. 9, 1624; and his epitaph in Latin iambics is printed among Peshall's monumental inscriptions. In the chancel was buried John Snell, esq. whom we have recorded as a benefactor to Balliol college. His epitaph, with that of his wife who survived him, still remains. Those of the Napiers, or Nappers, may be seen in Peshall. Here also was buried the lady of sir Digby Mackworth, bart.

[c] In 1771 it contained 131 houses; in 1833 the number was 160. The population in 1801 was 732; in 1831 it had increased to 944. The annual value of property rated to the poor in 1833 was about 7000*l*.

Peter's in the East; from which it is separated by the old city ditch which ran under the east side, and somewhat to the north of New College wall and tower, leaving the slipe between. It extends northward thence to the upper extremity of the Parks, where formerly stood a cross, dividing it from St. Giles's parish, at a place called Rome. It is continued from that extremity along Bradmore furlong almost straight to the river Cherwell. That river forms its eastern boundary; while the parishes of St. Giles and St. Mary Magdalene terminate it in one continued line along its western side, where a noble terrace-walk was formed in the year 1755.

The manor of Holywell in the Saxon times was attached to the royal manor of Heddington: it formed part of the munificent grant of the Norman conqueror to Robert D'Oiley [d], so often mentioned in our work: from his descendants it came into the possession of Henry de Oxenforde, called also Henry de S. Petro [e]. He left it to his son John de Oxenforde, bishop of Norwich, who let it to farm to J. de Brideport, rector of this church and of St. Peter's. The bishop dying without heir in the year 1200, the manor is said to have remained in the hands of the rector and his successors; but it is probable that they continued to hold it under the crown, to which it escheated by the death of the bishop. Subsequently, as one of the appurtenances to St. Peter's in the East, it was granted by king Henry III. to Bogo de Clare; and with the advowson of the mother church was settled on Merton college [f], to which it still belongs.

[d] Vide Domesday, vol. i. fol. 158.

[e] See Magdalene Parish, p. 15. Peshall, p. 242, and the charter of confirmation from Henry II.

[f] See our account of Merton college, p. 7; and St. Peter's in the East, p. 5.

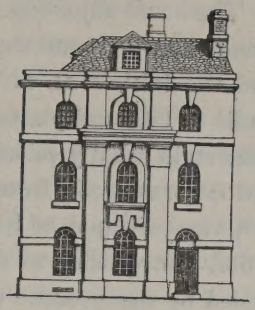
The liberties of this manor, within which a market was formerly held, were disputed with much earnestness between the city and Merton college for a long series of years [g], during which the cause was tried in a variety of forms with various success, until it was finally settled in favour of the college in the beginning of James the Second's reign, 1685.

The house of the Austin Friars, founded in 1268 by sir J. Handlow of Borestall, being included in the site of Wadham college, an account of it will be found under that head.

The present street of Holywell is evidently a continuation of the ancient Horsemonger lane; leading from the east end of that lane to Crowell and the parish cross; and having the city wall and ditch on the south. There were no houses on the south side until after the year 1600: when the fortifications having fallen into disuse the ditch was filled up, and houses erected on its site. Several of those built about this period are still remaining: one, near the tower of New College, bears the date of 1639; and the initials A. S. and C. S. on the brackets which support the projecting windows. It is built only of lath and plaster: but there are several others of stone, which appear older [h].

[g] See Peshall, pp. 243, 4, 5, where these trials are enumerated.

[h] In Loggan's accurate plan, which is a sort of bird's-eye view of the city as well as a map, the row of houses on the south side of the street appears to be nearly complete, only a few gardens intervening here and there. In Agas's map there are no houses on the south side, except one or two near our Lady's chapel; and only a few on the north, situated chiefly about the middle and east end. 'Almshouse Place' is mentioned by Wood as being in this street; but he takes no notice of Little St. Helens: St. Helen's hall being in St. Thomas's parish, called 'Le Helle' in the Valor of Hen. VIII.



SEAL'S COFFEE HOUSE.

The house at the corner of Broad street, known for many years as Seal's Coffee House, was built by sir John Vanburgh, the architect of the Clarendon, which on a small scale it closely resembles in style. It was erected on the site of a previous one; which, with two or three others adjoining to it, was built by the university on land granted to them for the purpose by Merton college.

On the north side[i] of this street there are also several good stone houses, some of which may boast of considerable antiquity. Amongst them are the remains of two or three academical halls: Sand hall is mentioned in the archives of the city in the reigns of Edward II. and III; Grym hall, or Griffin hall, about the same period. Persover or Pershore hall, paid 18*s.* per annum to the church of St. Michael's at North gate in the time of

[i] One of the oldest houses on the north side is that next to Dr. Bishop's; on the brackets of which are seen, carved in plain shields of an elegant shape, the three chevronels of the house of Clare; adopted with a counterchange of colours by Walter de Merton and his college, who succeeded to some portion of their property. The old partition transverse walls, occasionally seen between these houses, confirm Wood's statement of the manner in which the inhabitants of Oxford guarded against fire in ancient times.

Edward I. and II. The house adjoining to the Music room on the west side, and shewn in our engraving, bears the date of 1626, and the initials M. L. and A. L. on the brackets. It is built of lath and plaster, but rather picturesque, and in the style usually called Elisabethan.

The MUSIC ROOM was built from a design of Dr. Thomas Camplin[k], vice-principal of St. Edmund hall, at the expense of 1263*l.* 10*s.* which was defrayed by a public subscription, aided by the produce of two oratorios in Christ Church hall, and the performances of choral music by an amateur society at the King's head. The subscription was commenced in 1742, but the room was not opened until 1748; and the whole debt was not liquidated until 1752. Since that period regular concerts have been performed in it, which are usually well attended; but the funds are inadequate to any enlarged expenditure. It is under the management of stewards chosen from the respective colleges in the university.

MUSIC ROOM, &c.

[k] Peshall, p. 248.

At the east end of Holywell, nearly where Magdalene turret now stands, there was formerly a stone cross in the centre of the four streets which met at this point: three of them[1] remain; but the fourth, which led to the mill, has been long stopped, being inclosed in Magdalene college grove, and another road made to the mill on the north side of the grove. Not far from the cross, and immediately under the north-east corner of the city wall, was Crowell, Crow-well, or Cross-well, which is frequently mentioned as one of the boundaries of the manor. The water of this well was believed to be beneficial to the eyes, and a stone building was erected over it in 1626 by Dr. Rawlinson, principal of St. Edmund hall. Some doggrel lines were cut thereon, and are printed by Peshall, p. 250.

At the distance of about thirty yards, on the north side of the church, considerable remains of the manor house rebuilt in 1516 are still standing, as seen in our engraving, p. 1. Between this house and the church is another well, from which the parish is supposed to have taken its name. It was dedicated to St. Winifred and St. Margaret, and very much frequented for the reputed holiness of the water. Wood says[m], "I find many per-

[1] The houses in Longwall were not built until after 1670, in which year a conference was held in the lodgings of Dr. J. Lamphire, principal of Hart hall, where were present Dr. John Fell, dean of Christ Church, and sir Sampson White, justices of the peace; G. Napier, gent. tenant to Merton college in Holywell; &c. 'This was in order for a course to be taken, that the town ditch on the east side of New College wall be drained, that buildings may be erected on it; and the owners of the said buildings may repair the way lying before their doors, viz. that way between the said ditch and Magdalene college wall that encloses the grove.' Wood's Life, p. 241.

[m] Peshall, p. 253. Some persons are of opinion that the holy well

sons yearly relieved by these wholesome waters to this day." At present they have entirely lost their former celebrity, and are deserted for more fashionable springs. The water is remarkably pure, intensely cold, but seldom freezes: there is still a cold bath, but it has few visitors. About the year 1488 Dr. Fitzjames, warden of Merton, erected a stone building over it, " to receive the prayers of people." The present building is in good repair.

In Holywell green and the meadows adjoining, the double zigzag entrenchments or leaguers thrown up for the defence of the city in the time of Charles I. may be very distinctly traced as far as the gardens of Wadham college. The embankment on the north and east sides of the warden's garden formed part of them.

HOLYWELL MILL.

was not situated as here described by Wood, but in Jackson's or Holywell green, about a hundred yards due east of the church, where there is a well, called Jenny Newton's well, still in some repute for " curing the eyes." But Wood's statement is explicit, and there are no remains of any building on this spot. In the map by Agas Crowell is denominated ' Holiwell.' But all these wells were much esteemed by the inhabitants, and it was found useful to hold them sacred.

F.Mackenzie. J.Le Keux.

ST CLEMENTS CHURCH.
FROM MAGDALEN WALK.

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ST. CLEMENT'S.

THE OLD CHURCH.

THE earliest mention of a church here in authentic records is in 1122, when it is enumerated amongst the churches granted or confirmed to the canons of St. Frideswide by king Henry I. How long before this period it was built is uncertain: but probably not many years; since the oldest parts of the church, lately pulled down, corresponded with the style of that period. Very soon after this grant or confirmation to the monastery of St. Frideswide, there was a great dispute between that society and the abbey of Oseney respecting the tithes of the property which belonged to the abbey in this parish. This was at length settled by a sort of compromise; or, as Wood states, "a composition made in St. Mary's church before a synod, and in the presence of Mr. Nicholas, deputy archdeacon of Oxford, about the foundation of Oseney abbey, anno 1126." The rectory is now in the patronage of the crown. The old church underwent many repairs and alterations by the insertion of windows, &c. as usual: but the small oblong ground plan remained, and probably for the most part the ori-

ginal walls, until the year 1829, when the new church being completed the old one was taken down as no longer necessary.

The new church was built in 1827 and 1828, under the direction of a committee who had undertaken the management of the funds, which were raised by subscription, and it was consecrated in June, 1828. The former church had been for many years in a very bad state of repair, and had been rendered quite inadequate to the wants of the parish by the very rapid increase of the population [n], which consisted chiefly of the lower orders of society. In this juncture, the members of the university and inhabitants of the city came forward with their usual liberality, and with the assistance of a grant of 500*l.* from the commissioners for building and enlarging churches, the necessary sum was raised. The ground on which the church was built, with the churchyard, was given by sir Joseph Lock: but the whole expense of the church and decorations amounted to 6,500*l.*

The parish of St. Clement [o] is situated in the hundred

[n] In 1801 there were only 413 inhabitants; in the course of the next ten years, to 1811, they had increased only to 488; but in 1821 the number was nearly doubled, being then 770: and in the last ten years the increase has been still more rapid, the number in 1831 being 1,836. This extraordinary increase was occasioned in a great degree by some extensive building speculations; encouraged, as in so many other instances, by the abuse of the poor-laws, which insured a profit to the builders at the expense of the parish. In 1771 there were only seventy houses in the parish; in 1834 there were 396.

The annual value of property rated to the poor in 1834 was about 6000*l.*

[o] This parish extends from a mark on Magdalene bridge eastward about half a mile, where it is bounded by the parish of Heddington, on the north by Marston, and on the south by Cowley, which extends to within thirty yards of the bridge, and some of the houses in that

of Bullington, and divided from the city of Oxford by the river Cherwell: but it is included in the new limits laid down under the Reform Act, and the inhabitants now have votes for the city. It was formerly called the Manor of Bruggeset; and in the Saxon times belonged to the crown, together with the adjoining manor of Heddington, and the five forests of Shotover, Stowood [o], Woodstock, Cornbury, and Wychwood. Several parcels of land in Bruggeset, Heddington, and Cowley, were given to the priory of St. Frideswide by successive kings, and confirmed by king Ethelred in the year 1004. The manor house, which went by the name of Shipton or Scipton [p], afterwards Boll-Shipton, served as a refuge for

parish are included in the new boundary of the city under the Reform Act.

There are several charities in this parish, some of which require notice. The hospital or almshouse, on the south side of the road, was built in 1700 by the rev. William Stone, principal of New Inn hall; assisted by Dr. Fry of Trinity college; who gave 1000*l.* and superintended the building, as executor of Mr. Stone. The foundation was for eight widows; and an estate was left for its support in the hands of six trustees, of whom the Vice-chancellor for the time being is always one.

Nearly opposite to it is another row of almshouses, of particularly neat appearance, with a hedge of viburnum before them, built in 1780 by Edmund Boulter, esq. of Hasely Court, Oxon, and endowed for the support of six poor men, and a medical attendant, who resides in the central house, and is bound also to give his advice gratis to the poor generally who may apply to him.

Certain tenements and ground rents in this parish, called Dawson's charity, are under the management of trustees, for the 'repair of the church and the relief of the poor:' at present they produce a very small annual income; but according to a recent decision in the court of chancery, the existing leases are forbidden to be renewed: when they fall in, the estate will be of much value and importance to the parish.

[o] 'Staworde,' in Domesday; a kind of intermediate link of orthography, which connects Stafford (or Stanford) grove with Sto-wood.

[p] It is mentioned in the Domesday survey incidentally thus: "Rex

the monks when their priory was so much damaged by the Danes, who set fire to it, and are commonly but erroneously said to have destroyed it.

The canons of St. Frideswide were lords of this manor[q], and held a court-leet twice a year, at which their tenants attended, not only from the manor itself, but also from Marston, Ellesfield, Heddington, and Cowley. It was exempted by a charter from the jurisdiction of the court held at Heddington, to which the greater part of the hundred of Bullington, or Bolendon, acknowledged suit and service.

The nature of the soil[r] and the softness of the stone found in this neighbourhood render it difficult to keep the principal roadway in good repair. This difficulty, and the expense attending it, appear to have been felt from a very early period: for we are told that king Richard II, understanding how deep it was, and dangerous for passengers both on foot and horseback, as also for carts, commanded by his letters patent, in the sixth year of his reign, Richard Forester of Bekkeley, (Beckley,) to take certain customs of all wares for two years' space, that came over the said way to Oxford, or any place else,

unam mansionem habet reddentem vj*d.* pertinentem ad Sciptone." fol. 154. The remains of it were pulled down with some other houses in 1642, when Oxford was garrisoned by the royalist forces, with a view to the formation of a bulwark on this side, which was built across the street, a little to the east of the old church. Wood ap. Peshall, p. 285.

[q] See Wood ap. Peshall, pp. 281, 282.

[r] The soil is a stiff clay: many attempts have been made to bore through it for water, but in vain. The parish is now supplied with water conveyed by pipes from the spring on Heddington hill, and distributed among the inhabitants by means of pumps placed at the end of each street. The expense of this useful and charitable work was defrayed by public subscription in 1833.

to be sold: the money so raised to be applied to the repair of this road and of the bridge adjoining: which is said to have been effectually done for many years after: but in the time of Henry VIII. we find that cardinal Wolsey was obliged to expend a large sum on the repair of this road for the conveyance of stone, &c. to his works at Christ Church [s]. The southern road leading to Henley by Rosehill is of modern date. The middle road by Cowley marsh and Bartholomew's hospital is more ancient: being mentioned by the name of London street in the charters of Oseney and St. Frideswide's monasteries [t]. It also occurs by this name in a deed cited by Wood, of the 18th of Edward II. Dr. Claymund, president of Corpus, in the reign of Henry VIII, is said to have repaired the road, at which time there were many houses by the side of it, quite to the old church of St. Clement's. Dr. Plot imagined [u], that in his time the remains of a Roman road were very distinctly to be traced on Heddington hill, near the favourite elm tree of Josiah Pullen, vice-principal of Magdalene hall, who died in 1714 [v], and

[s] See our account of Christ Church, p. 50; Gutch's Collectanea Curiosa, vol. i. p. 205.

[t] Or, 'Londonysche strete;' called also 'regia via' in ancient charters; because this was the high road to London long before either of the other two roads was projected. It passed under Shotover hill towards Horsepath; where it crossed another very ancient bridle road, or vicinal way, leading from the north-eastern side of the county to Dorchester, Benson, and Wallingford by Garsington. See Roman stations in Hearne's Appendix to Leland's Itinerary, vol. ii. p. 111, second edit. 1744.

[u] See Plot's Oxfordshire, pp. 325, 326. edit. 2nd. 1705.

[v] Mr. Gutch says in 1715, æt. 90, in the account of his portrait in the picture gallery; but he afterwards corrects his statement thus: 'J. PULLEN, ob. 1714, æt. 83.' V. Wood's Annals, II. II. 968, 984. He was buried in the Lady chapel, on the north side of St. Peter's

leading from thence across Marston lane, in the direction of St. Giles's church passing to the north of Holywell church, near which there was a bridge [w].

About half a mile from Magdalene bridge, and a little to the north of the road to Cowley, stand the remains of St. Bartholomew's hospital [x], already mentioned; which, though extraparochial, was originally a part of the royal manor of Heddington. The chapel, which is in a tolerably perfect state, was rebuilt in the reign of Edward II. and had the good fortune to be spared when the other buildings of the hospital were destroyed in the civil wars. (See p. 16.) This hospital was founded by king Henry I. [y] for lepers soon after the erection of his palace at Beaumont, and was intended for the habitation of twelve brethren and a chaplain: being endowed by the king with the sum of xxiiii*l.* v*d.* per annum, from the fee-farm rent anciently payable to the crown from the city of Oxford. A long list of minor contributions of tenements and lands has been preserved by Wood; amongst which appears one from Juliana, the daughter of Robert de S. Remigio, to be paid out of the rent of her mill at Iffley [z].

Notwithstanding the foundation was originally so well settled and maintained, yet in the reign of king Edward II. it was reduced to so great poverty, that it became necessary to diminish the number of brethren to six infirm and two sound. For this purpose, a new charter was obtained, at the solicitation of the brethren and the intercession of the dowager queen Margaret, who was their patroness: this charter is printed at length in Dugdale's Monasticon [a]. In the year 1328 Adam de Brom solicited and obtained from king Edward III. the grant of this hospital, and all its endowments, for the use of his

church in the East; with this inscription on a flat stone:—'Josia Pullen, A. M. aula Magd. 57 annos Vice Princip. necnon hujusce ecclesiae pastor 39 annos, ob. 31 Dec. 1714.'

[w] There are still remaining (1834) the foundations of an old stone bridge under the water in the favourite bathing-place, a little to the north of the church, called Loggerhead, i. e. *Leaguer*-head.

[x] See Oriel college, p. 8, where there is an engraving of the chapel in its present state.

[y] Wood ap. Peshall, p. 273—280; Tanner's Notitia Monastica, p. 241; Hearne's Appendix to Leland's Itinerary, vol. ii. p. 116. ed. 2nd.

[z] See our account of Iffley parish, p. 2 and 16.

[a] Dugdale's Monasticon, vol. ii. p. 407.

new society; but upon condition that they should take upon themselves the maintenance of the chaplain and eight brethren, whose places were to be successively filled up according to the directions of the charter granted by his predecessor. Within a few years after this grant, the city of Oxford refused to continue the payment of 23*l.* 5*d.* from the fee-farm rent[b]. This gave rise to a succession of lawsuits between the corporation and the college, in which however the college was always successful. But in the 27th Henry VIII. a composition was made between the parties, who agreed to abide by the arbitration of J. Hales and T. Walsh, barons of the exchequer.

The arbitrators reduced the annual payment from 23*l.* 5*d.* to 19*l.*: they also awarded that in all future vacancies a preference should be given to freemen of the city of Oxford. This arrangement has continued in force to the present day; and the Bartlemas men, with their cloaks and badges, are well known to every inhabitant of Oxford. But that which was originally a sufficient provision for a decent maintenance, has dwindled into a miserable pittance, in consequence of the immense change in the value of money, which has in so many instances defrauded the intentions of our pious ancestors[c].

At the time of Domesday survey, the burgesses of Oxford paid to the conqueror 60*l.* per annum, for toll, gable, and other customs and privileges. That sum was increased to 63*l.* 5*d.* in the reign of Hen. I; and in consideration of such annual payment the burgesses (as is expressed in the charter granted to them by king John) were to hold the town, with all its liberties, free customs, meadows, fisheries, &c. as a *perpetual farm*, of the king and his successors. The sum of 23*l.* 5*d.* having been granted out of this *fee-farm rent* to the almsmen, the remaining 40*l.* was paid by the city annually to the exchequer. But an act having been passed, appointing commissioners for the purpose of selling and alienating fee-farm and other unimprovable rents, belonging to the crown, the citizens entered into an agreement with the

[b] This sum is therefore entered in *Italics* in the Valor of Hen. viij. II. 243; with this memorandum annexed: 'Detrahitur per burgenses, et ideo nihil; sed salvo semper inde jure collegii.'

[c] Appendix to Leland's Itinerary, vol. ii. p. 117. The sum paid to the brethren, as fixed at the time of the second foundation, 9th Edward II. was 9*d.* a week; and the same money payment is continued to the present day. At the period mentioned, 1316, the average price of wheat was about 7*s.* a quarter; oxen about 10*s.*; bacon hogs, 3*s.* 4*d.*; and ducks, 1*d.* See Lloyd's prices of Corn in Oxford, p. 15 and 44.

said commissioners, on the payment of 960*l.* in Feb. 1787, to exempt themselves for ever from this ancient claim for rent: the portion, however, assigned to the almsmen by the corporation in the time of Henry VIII. viz. 19*l.* per annum, is still paid by the city through its chamberlains to Oriel college, for the use of the eight almsmen. These poor men also receive annually a few shillings from Christ Church and All Souls' college, and a reserved rent of 32*s.* per annum from a tenement in the Cornmarket, now occupied by Mr. Scott. They constantly prefer their claim for a fee on every civic election, and even from grand compounders, and those who are admitted to superior degrees in the university. They have not for many years inhabited the hospital. The old building, in the year 1643, was used as a pest-house during the plague; but being demolished during the siege of Oxford, it was rebuilt as we now see it in 1649 by Oriel college. In 1833 the present building was fitted up by the board of health, as a temporary residence for cholera patients.

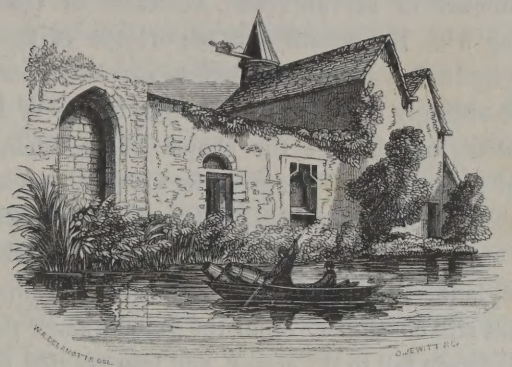
JOE PULLEN'S TREE.

F.Mackenzie. J.Le Keux

ST THOMAS'S CHURCH.

Published Nov.1st 1835, by J.H.Parker, Oxford. C.Tilt. Fleet St.t London: & J.Le Keux. Harmondsworth.

MEMORIALS OF OXFORD.



RUINS OF REWLEY ABBEY.

Church and Parish of St. Thomas.

The Church. This edifice was founded in 1141, by the canons of Oseney, partly for the use of the parishioners of St. George's, who were deprived of access to their parish church, within the precincts of the castle, when the empress Maud was closely besieged therein by king Stephen [a]. It was built on the moiety of seventeen acres and a half of land granted to the abbey by Bernard de St. Waleri out of his lordship of Oseney. This church, or chapel, was originally dedicated to the

[a] See Wood ap. Peshall, p. 314; and Dugdale's Monasticon, vol. II. 137; who refers in the margin to a MS. in C.C.C. B. 2. f. 7. a. The church is there called 'Capella S. Thomæ;' but in the Oseney book, as printed by Peshall, it is 'ecca S. Thomæ.' 'Parochia S. Thomæ' occurs in the hundred rolls, p. 788. It is sometimes called St. Thomas *the Martyr;* whence the popular notion, that it was dedicated to St. Thomas à Becket; but the Apostle of that name had suffered martyrdom many ages before Thomas à Becket was canonized.

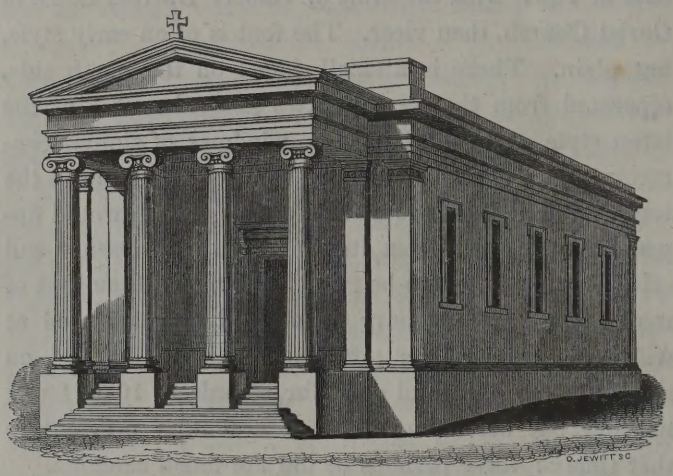
memory of St. Nicholas, bishop of Myra: it was then of very small dimensions, and after the conclusion of the siege fell into disuse until the next century; when the number of servants and retainers of Oseney increasing with the wealth and importance of the abbey, they required a chapel to themselves; and permission was accordingly obtained from Hugh, bishop of Lincoln, to restore and enlarge the chapel of St. Nicholas, described to be 'ante januam curiæ Oseney.' A chaplain was also appointed at 40*s.* per annum. In 1521 it was again consecrated to its original patron, St. Nicholas, by J. Longland, bishop of Lincoln; but the name of St. Thomas still continues. After the dissolution of the abbey the advowson fell to the crown, and was granted to Christ Church; to which society it still belongs. It is called by Peshall 'a donative, worth about 50*l.* per annum.' The present building has undergone so many repairs and alterations, that very little of the original fabric remains. The popular tradition mentioned by Wood, that the chancel was the only part originally built, and the rest of the church subsequently added, accounts for the different denominations which we find of the 'chapel' of St. 'Nicholas' and the 'church' of St. 'Thomas;' though the nave in all probability was added at no great distance of time from the chancel, as some lancet windows of early character still remain on the north side. Nearly the whole of the south side was rebuilt within the last few years, when the church was thoroughly repaired and fitted up afresh; but an original doorway has been preserved in the chancel, of the peculiar form adopted at Carnarvon castle, of which we have also a specimen at Merton, and another still remains in the ruins of Rewley abbey. There is also a small circular headed win-

dow of the date of the original fabric on the north side of the chancel, and the east window is a good specimen of the ramified or curvilinear style of the fourteenth century, lately called by Mr. Rickman the 'flamboyant.' The tower appears to have been built about the time of the last consecration by bishop Longland. The porch bears the date of 1621, with the arms of Robert Burton, B. D. of Christ Church, then vicar. The font is of an early style, but plain. There is a small chapel on the north side, separated from the nave by two pointed arches of the latest style, and containing two windows of similar character: this was probably built about the same time as the tower; but though the history of this church would appear at first sight, from its connexion with Oseney and other circumstances, to be more fully known than that of most others, yet we have no account of the period at which any of the later portions were built. Wood, on searching the parochial chest for records in 1679, found nothing but accompts for about a century previous to that time[b]: these perhaps he did not much examine.

The boundaries of the PARISH extend from the bridge near Mr. Tawney's brewhouse, down the river to Preachers' pool, near the gas-works; thence across the meadows to within a short distance of Ferry Hinksey, and to the bridge adjoining Botley mill; then to Medley, and passing by the southern boundary of Port Meadow, to Jericho house; thence along Walton street to the Canal wharf, and through the eastern and southern parts of the Castle to the Castle mills.

[b] See his memorandum to this effect among his extracts from parochial and other evidences. MSS. Ashm. D. 2. p. 348. In p. 501 he states, that he had perused 148 charters 'in St. Tho. box' among the records of Oseney preserved in the treasury at Ch. Ch.

In 1771 it contained only 174 houses; in 1833 the number had increased to 653: the population being 3277 according to the census of 1831, which is daily increasing; the present number being probably about 3400. The annual value of property rated to the poor is estimated at 14,600*l.*



THE NEW DISTRICT CHURCH, ERECTED 1835.

A district church has been recently erected by subscription near the University Printing House, for the accommodation of the northern division of the parish. The length of it is 80 feet, the breadth 39; and it is calculated to contain 900 persons. The design, which is Ionic, was furnished by Mr. Underwood.

This extensive parish comprises the greater part of the western suburbs of the city, including the ancient parish of St. George, together with the site of the abbeys of Oseney and Rewley, &c. We cannot therefore close our account without some mention of these ancient institutions, though now fallen to decay.

ST. GEORGE'S church was originally only a chapel for the use of the inhabitants and garrison of the Castle, but was afterwards made a parish church. It was built or rebuilt by Robert D'Oilly the first[c], in 1074. He also settled a society of secular canons therein, called St. George's college; but this society lasted little more than fifty years, when it was given by Robert D'Oilly the second to his newly founded abbey of Oseney: after this period the college was occupied by regulars and by poor scholars of the university, chiefly supported by the canons of Oseney, and it continued to be used for this purpose until the dissolution. Perhaps we ought here to notice the site of some very early edifices, though not strictly within the bounds of this parish.

ST. BENEDICT'S church[d] was situated in the immediate suburbs, just without the west gate of the city, and adjoining to it, on part of the ground now occupied by Paradise garden[e]. It is mentioned as one of the churches repaired by Robert D'Oilly the first, soon after the Norman conquest, when the barony of Oxford was allotted to him: but a great part of the parish being subsequently included within the enlarged limits of the Castle, the remainder was united to St. Budoc's, which was situated about three hundred yards to the west of it, and seems also to have been founded before the conquest. Both these parishes were soon afterwards united to St. George's; and the churches having fallen to decay, the site was

[c] Peshall, p. 208. See also our account of Oxford castle, and Tanner's Notitia Monastica, p. 418; Kennett's Parochial Antiquities, p. 60; Stevens' Supplement to Dugdale, vol. II. p. 115.

[d] ST. BENEDICT'S church, though in the WESTERN SUBURBS, was in ST. EBBE'S parish, not in that of ST. THOMAS.

[e] Wood, ap. Peshall, p. 296.

given by Henry III. to the penitential friars: on which, having obtained permission from the canons of Oseney, they built themselves a house and oratory out of the ruins of the churches of St. Benedict and St. Budoc: here they continued until about 1307, when their order being prohibited in England, their possessions came into the hands of King Edward II, who gave them to the adjoining monastery of the Franciscans: their house was soon afterwards pulled down, and the site added to the gardens of that monastery.

REMAINS OF OSENEY ABBEY, NEAR THE MILL.

Oseney Abbey[f]. This celebrated abbey was founded in 1129 by Robert D'Oilly the second, the nephew of the first of that name, at the instance of his wife Edith, and

[f] See Peshall, p. 301–311; Tanner's Notitia Monastica, 419; Dugdale's Monasticon, vol. II. 136; Kennett's Parochial Antiquities, 104; Stevens' Suppt. II. 118. Oseney is mentioned in a hundred instances in the Inquisition Rolls of Ed. j. but the references are chiefly to be found in the 'Index Nominum.'

was handsomely endowed by him, at first as a priory of Augustinian monks; but so many other benefactions poured in, that it soon became an abbey, and ultimately one of the largest and most magnificent in the kingdom; distinguished equally for its wealth and importance. From the great extent and splendour of its buildings, Wood says, 'it was one of the first ornaments and wonders of this place and nation.' It was situated in an island formed by different branches of the Ouse, Isis, or Thames; whence it derived its name. The buildings extended from the mill, which still bears the original name, nearly to St. Thomas's church; the numerous habitations of the almsmen and dependents of the abbey being comprised within it.

The church, dedicated in honour of St. Mary the Virgin, was lofty and magnificent, with two towers; one in the centre, the other at the west end; in which latter was contained a peal of bells celebrated as the best in England at that time. These were removed to Christ Church, and still deserve their fame. The edifice was enriched with a variety of chapels; having not less than twenty-four distinct altars. Being rebuilt, or enlarged, about 1247, it received so many additions, that it 'became at length a most beautiful and large fabric, second to none in the kingdom.' The abbot's house was also celebrated for its splendour, and was frequently honoured by the company of kings, prelates, and nobles of the first rank; having a hall 'more befitting a common society than a private man,' as it is described in Stevens' Supplement. It was beyond the common court or quadrangle westward. The cloisters, the kitchen, the great hall, or public refectory, &c. were all on a corresponding scale of magnificence. Of the latter it is said, that the stone stairs which led to it were so broad, that five or six men

could go up abreast. The infirmary was close to the river, on the south side of the great quadrangle. King Henry III, after he had raised the siege before Kenilworth castle, passed his Christmas here; celebrating the time for seven days' space 'with great revelling and mirth[g].'

Of all these gorgeous buildings scarcely a vestige remains, and had not a knowledge of the site been preserved by tradition and by the diligence of our faithful antiquaries, it would be impossible now even to guess where they stood. The curious may however be satisfied by having the precise spot pointed out to them. It may be tolerably well ascertained by a reference to Stevens, vol. II. p. 121-2. Some unevenness of ground, in the broad and fertile meadow between St. Thomas's church and the mill, marks the site of the great quadrangle; on the east side of which stood the church[h]. The refectory was on the south, which was connected with the church and other buildings by a spacious cloister on either side. Some remains of the outbuildings may still be seen near the present sawing-mill.

The footway or passage to the abbey was over the small bridge called Bookbinders' bridge, close to Mr. Morrell's brewery, through the Hamel[i], thence by Church lane to the smaller gate of the abbey; adjoining to which was a

[g] Stevens, Supplement to the Monasticon, vol. II. p. 123.

[h] There is an engraving of this church in a half ruinous state, from a drawing procured by Aubrey just before the rebellion, in Dugdale's Monasticon, vol. II. p. 136; also a small view of the ruins in the corner of Agas's map; and a curious representation of them in a more perfect state on the stained glass window over bishop King's monument in Christ Church cathedral.

[i] It appears that there were houses on both sides of the Hamel at an early period, inhabited chiefly by bookbinders, whence the name of Bookbinders' bridge. The ground given to the abbey soon after the

row of buildings extending to the great gate, comprising an almshouse and a house called "Domus Dei," erected for the poorer clerks and indigent servants of the abbey.

The pleasant walks by the river side, planted with elm trees, are frequently mentioned: and these may still be distinctly traced, extending from the site of the abbey to that branch of the Isis which passes by the west side of Paradise garden, and of the new streets called Friars and Black Friars, and which separated their possessions from those of the Franciscans and Dominicans. The monks had also a house of retirement at Medley, near the lock, but of this no traces remain; though there is reason to suppose, that Mr. Tuckwell's rural mansion occupies the site of it.

Hithe bridge, now usually written High bridge, was so called from the hithe or wharf adjoining; *hithe* being a Saxon word, signifying a landing-place to receive wares out of barges or other vessels: hence we have Queen-hithe, Rother-hithe, Maiden-hithe, corrupted into Maidenhead, &c. The road from Oxford to Witney formerly passed over this bridge, coming from the north gate down Thames street, now George lane, and was continued along a narrow causeway to Botley, parts of which may still be seen on the south side of the road near the latter[1]. The present noble causeway with its

original foundation, by Philippa Basset, countess of Warwick, under the name of the close of the Ham, or Ham-close, &c. was distinct from the Hamel; which implies the 'Little Ham.' The 'clausum de Hamme' is described as 'retro molendinum *Fulerez* de Oseney,' behind the *fullers' mill* of Oseney. Dugd. Mon. II. 142.

[1] This causeway is said by Wood (ap. Peshall, p. 233) to have been made in the time of Edward VI. by lord Williams of Thame, previously to which the road to Ensham was by Binsey. The bridges

seven bridges was made under an act of parliament in 1766; at which period a part of the Castle yard and moat were also taken into the new road.

The abbot and convent of Oseney were in possession of a great number of academic halls in Oxford; but we can only mention two in this parish; MARYON hall, and ST. HELEN'S. The former was on the right hand near Bookbinders' bridge[m], opposite to ST. CATHARINE'S, a house at the corner so called from the fraternity of that name. ST. HELEN'S, or Le Helle, was a hall in king John's time; but so called from Philip de S. Helena, who purchased it of Andrew Halgod in the reign of Henry III. This house came into the possession of Christ Church with the other property of the abbey hereabout[n].

however were repaired or rebuilt by Dr. Claymund, president of C.C.C. as recorded by Shepreve in these lines:

'Quis nescit longo constructos ordine pontes
In medio prati, Botlea parva, tui?'

[m] 'In p'och. S. Tho. vel Georgii. Cotagium vocat' Marione hall 7*s*. p' sacrist' Oseney. *Soe* a rentall wch I have for ye situation of it 1498. It seems to be about ye corner ov' ag'st ye red ox.' Wood, MSS. Ashm. 8513. D. 2, p. 478.

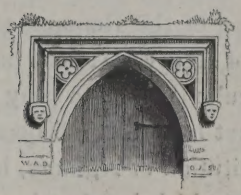
[n] Many curious documents relating to Oseney abbey, with copious extracts from the registers at Ch. Ch. are preserved in Wood's MSS. in the Ashmole Museum. Among other particulars recorded are certain charges and payments made by Thomas Daye, from the feast of the annunciation of our Lady 36 Hen. viij. until the surrender of the abbey, and after the surrender till 38 Hen. viij. (1545-7.) 'Imprimis, for hedging the dove-house close round about, &c. Item, for wyne to sir John Williams...dede of surrender of...It: to ye dychers yt cast ye dyches in ye Aley medowe (probably Church-lane meadow) in pt of their bargaine XXd. It: for Mr. Ellys his dinner ye kyngs mason & his companions dinner at Abyngton, wn he appointed stuffe of Abington church for Xt Ch. ye first time iiij*s*. ij*d*. It: pd to ye tything men of St. Nich: parish of Oxon for searching for yron barrs of a window taken away from Osney iiij*d*. It: payd to ye cook hyred by Davy Barb' to dresse dinner at ye coming of ye

F. Mackenzie

J. Le Keux

VIEW OF OXFORD, FROM THE MEADOWS NEAR THE GAS-WORKS.

Published Nov.r 1.st 1836, by J.H. Parker, Oxford, C. Tilt, Fleet St.t London; & J. Le Keux, Harmondsworth.



ANCIENT DOORWAY IN THE WALL AT REWLEY.

REWLEY ABBEY. This royal abbey, occupying the northern part of the island of Oseney, and therefore called NORTH OSENEY, was founded in 1279 by Ed-

comissioners to Osney viij*d.*' (Then follow 'workmans wages at Osney & S. Frideswyde's,' &c. 1546) Imprimus to Popingiaye y^e^ ioyner for taking downe y^e^ stalls & sides of y^e^ quire & high aultar & other things in y^e^ church (Oseney) 5*s.* 4*d.* It: to y^e^ said Popingiaye for himself 3 dayes at taking downe y^e^ roof of y^e^ church 18*d.* It. p^d^ to Robinson y^e^ mason for stones and carriage therof for y^e^ fulling myll 26*s.* 8*d.* It: to y^e^ carpenter of Radley for 8. days working on y^e^ bridge at Frideswydes 7 dayes 16*d.* It. to a laborer y^t^ helped y^e^ slatters at Edward hall 2*d.* p^d^ to Mr. Raynolds for melting y^e^ lead of y^e^ church and casting it into sowes 16*l.* 18*s.* 8*d.* p^d^ to Will: plumer for taking downe y^e^ lead of y^e^ cloyster & casting it into sowes 4*l.* 4*s.* 2*d.* p^d^ to Steph. Carter for carriage of 50 loade of stone from y^e^ white fryers to frideswydes 11*s.* 6*d.* p^d^ also to D'ewe y^e^ carter for carriage of 40 loade of stone to y^e^ wall at frideswides & hye bridge. &. xi*s.* (*This stone as I think cae from Osney. There be div's payments to labourers at y^e^ wall of St. frid. q' w^t^. wall.* A. W.) It. p^d^ to Joh: Wesburne cheife carpenter taking downe y^e^ bells for 6 dayes iiij*s.* It. to Jeffrey Vyne iiij dayes about taking downe the battlements of y^e^ church & upon y^e^ porche. It: p^d^ to Willouby of Einsham for carriage of the *great bell* to Frydeswides 26 Sept. xx*s.* It. to Walter Dewe carter for carriage of gravell stone and clay to y^e^ locke & y^e^ myll & St. Nicholas church one lode, in all 27 lode 4*s.* 8*d.* It. to Mr. Nicholas y^e^ glasier for his work at Frideswide & for his glasse of y^e^ ares (*armes*) & images 9 Oct. 8^li^. It. to Tho. Daniell carpenter upon Frideswides bridge & at Osney 6 dayes 3*s.* 6*d.* (S. frid'bridge i. e. mill ham bridge, *A. W. in marg.*) It. to John Edwards

mund, earl of Cornwall[o], in pursuance of the will of his father Richard, king of the Romans, second son of King John, and brother of Henry III; who had directed a foundation of three secular priests to pray for his soul: but his son thinking that his father's bequest would be better fulfilled by an institution of regulars, began this foundation accordingly; in which he placed an abbot and fifteen monks of the Cistercian order brought from Thame abbey. The founder gave them, for their support, all his lands and tenements in North Oseney, in the parish of St. Thomas; only retaining to himself and his heirs a sufficient place in which to hold his court for the honour of St. Waleri. Part of this reserved piece of ground, consisting of sixteen acres on the west side of the abbey, was afterwards given to them by Edward I. at the desire of the founder, for the enlargement of their walks. The lands thus granted to the abbey were exempted from all suit or service to any court or hundred, as well as from the ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the bishop, and from all taxations and subsidies.

carpenter for taking downe of y^e^ roof of y^e^ frater house at Abingdon in pt. of his bargaine xx*s.* It. to a laborer pulling downe stone at Osney church for y^e^ masons y^t^ took y^e^ wall to taske at frideswyde iiij dayes xix*d.* *Wall at Frisnyds.* Imprimis paid to workmen beginning y^e^ foundation of y^e^ wall at frideswides y^e^ morrow after Ashwednesday. It. to a laborer Alex. Cooke pulling downe stone at y^e^ white fryers for y^e^ wall. 6 dayes 2*s.* 5*d.* It. pd. to Rafe dyxon Mrs. Deans servant for to deliv' to Mr. Hyb'den for y^e^ Almes. Slatt at Osny Kitchen taken downe. y^e^ Kitchen & fermory (infirmary) taken downe at Osney by Joh. Westburne & his 3. men ij days & himselfe 1 day & an halfe iiij*s.* It. to Marsh for carriage of 4 lode of slatte & timb' of y^e^ Kitchen & fermory 13*s.* 8*d.*' MSS. Ashm. 8513. Wood, D. 2. p. 584–6.

[o] For further particulars respecting this abbey, see Dugdale's Monasticon, vol. I. 934; Stevens' Supplement, vol. II. 50; and Hearne's Appendix to Leland's Itinerary, vol. II. p. 71.

The church, which stood between the lock, or weir, and the outer gate of the abbey, was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, by Robert Burnel, bishop of Bath and Wells, in 1281; the same year that the buildings of the abbey were completed. Ela Longespe, countess of Warwick, also built a chapel here, and gave lands for its support; the foundation stone of which, with an inscription on it, was dug up in 1705; and a facsimile of it, engraved by Cole, is in Hearne's Appendix to Leland's Itinerary, vol. II. and in Peshall, p. 327.

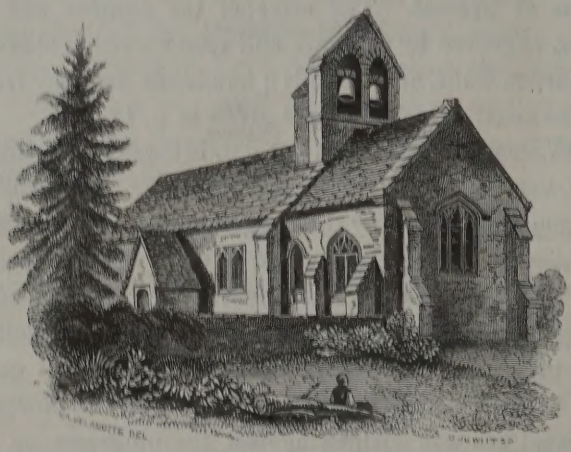
Of the remains of this abbey in 1720 there are four engravings in Stevens' Supplement, vol. II. p. 52. They are now in a less perfect state: but we have thought it best to give an engraving of the ruins in p. 1, as they appear at present. The arms of the founder and his father, engraved by Cole, are still seen carved in stone on the garden walls, and there is a handsome doorway fronting the canal, which we have given in p. 11.

The small hamlet of MEDLEY, Middeny, or Middleheit [p], together with the hamlet of Wyke, was ceded to the canons of Oseney by the burgesses of Oxford in 1209. These, with much meadow land in their vicinity, including Port Meadow, or Portmanheit, (the common meadow noticed in the Domesday survey,) Crippleit, and Sideling, were given to the burgesses of Oxford by royal grant prior to the Norman conquest. But when the power of the papal see was wielded against the burgesses on account of their condemnation and execution of three scholars in the turbulent reign of King John, they gave Med-

[p] So called because the middle *eye*, eyott, or island, between Binsey and Oseney; as Portmanheit was the island of the *portmen*, townsmen, or burgesses. Medley was valued at C$^{s.}$ temp. Hen. viij.

ley and Wyke to the canons of Oseney, in order to obtain their intercession with the Roman pontiff.

The branch of the river Isis which runs from Port Meadow to the Castle mill, dividing into two streams near Rewley, forms a long and narrow bank or island: these streams unite again at the north end of Mr. Tawney's garden. The island is about 500 yards in length, varying in breadth from 50 to 10 yards, and was formerly known by the name of Wareham, or Weir-ham bank, probably from the Weirs at Rewley and the Castle mills. This bank to the mill weir below was called the Fisher-row when it was given by the Conqueror to Robert D'Oilly, which name it still retains: it is partly the property of the city and partly of Christ Church.



BINSEY CHURCH.

BINSEY. The small but ancient village of BINSEY, although situated about a mile north-west, and apparently quite detached from the city of Oxford, is included within its boundary line, and the inhabitants were formerly liable

to all local taxes equally with other citizens, 'even for shutting of the gates,' &c. The parish is about a mile and three quarters in length, and three quarters of a mile in breadth, lying on the western side of Port Meadow, from which it is divided by the river. The land on both sides of the river is very low, and liable to be flooded after very heavy falls of rain; but in ordinary seasons forms excellent pasture. In 1771 there were only twelve houses in the parish; and they have not increased much since.

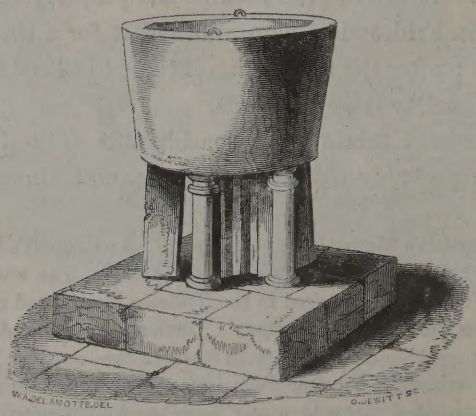
The church is situated about a quarter of a mile north-west of the village. It is said to have been founded by St. Frideswide, and first built of 'watlyn and rough hewn timber' about the year 730. It was then called Thornbury [q], being surrounded by thorny woods. The church was originally a small oratory, with some buildings adjoining for the use of the nuns, whither they used to retire for recreation, and sometimes to send their refractory members. It afterwards became the property of the canons of St. Frideswide, who annexed it for a time to St. Edward's: after the dissolution it came to Christ Church, to which society it still belongs.

The present fabric is of considerable antiquity, portions of it probably older than the conquest, though none

[q] See Dugdale's Monasticon, vol. I. p. 173-4; Kennett's Parochial Antiquities; Leland's Collectanea, vol. I. p. 342. The author of a life of St. Frideswide preserved in the Bodleian library, and quoted by Dugdale, has the following passage: 'Tandem Oxoniam rediit, et ne sororibus in cœnobio dimissis onerosa esset, in loco quodam juxta urbem multis arboribus consito, *Thornbiri* nuncupato, oratorium ædificiaque construxit, fontemque usque hodie manantem precibus impetravit et meritis.' The Oseney register adds further: 'Nam ibidem latitando fontem precibus impetravit; et unum a dæmonio vexatum, et alterum cujus manus securi adhæserat, liberavit.'

so early as the time of St. Frideswide. It is about sixteen yards in length, and six in breadth, and has no tower. The doorway has a circular head with the zig-zag moulding. In the chancel is a piscina and niche, in which a costly statue of St. Frideswide is said to have been placed, to which the superstitious people paid such frequent adoration, that the stone pavement around was worn hollow by their knees. The same anecdote is told of the stone steps to her shrine in Christ Church cathedral. These traditions go far to prove the great popularity of this saint, and the use that was made of it. The font is curious, and very ancient; of which we have here given an engraving, as conveying a better idea of it than any description could do.

The east end of this church being much decayed, was rebuilt in 1833 by the dean and chapter of Christ Church, as nearly as possible on the same model.

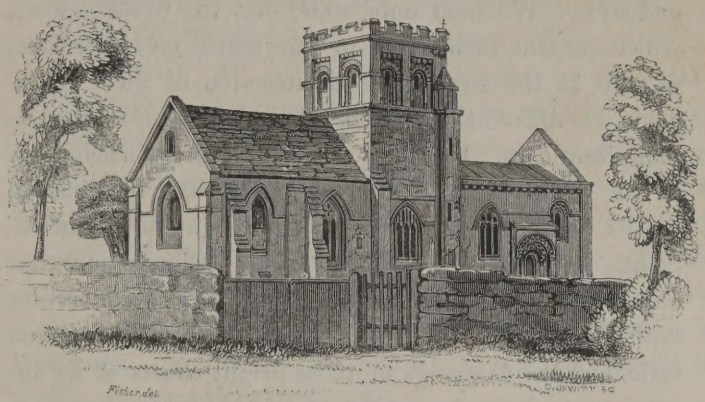


ANCIENT FONT IN BINSEY CHURCH.

IFFLEY CHURCH, FROM THE S.W.

Published April 1, 1826, by J. H. Parker, Oxford; C. J. & J. Rivington, St. Paul's Church-Yard, London; and Cumming, Dublin.

MEMORIALS OF OXFORD.



GENERAL VIEW OF THE CHURCH FROM THE N. E.

Iffley Church and Parish.

THE CHURCH.—Few strangers of taste, who visit Oxford, and have time to extend their researches into the immediate vicinity, fail to take a survey of IFFLEY[a] CHURCH. It forms indeed an interesting school of ancient architecture. Of the original structure enough re-

[a] The name of this village has been written, like most others, in a variety of ways; and the progress of corruption has been nearly as follows: Givetelei, Iveteleg, Yvetele, Yftele, Iftele, (in some instances incorrectly Iftele,) Ziftele, Eiffley, Ifley, &c. There is nothing, however, to countenance the fanciful etymology of 'Heiferley,' in contradiction to Cowley; which is itself a modern corruption from Culverley, Cuveley, Coveley, &c. There is every reason to believe, that the name was originally derived from the Saxon, Gyfteleȝa, or ȝyfteleȝe, which in Latin would be 'Campus donationum,' the field of gifts; or, Giftley. We shall presently have occasion to mention the donations of Juliana of St. Remi; and there were many others. See p. 13–16.

mains in the highest preservation, to gratify the most sanguine or the most fastidious; whilst the very alterations and additions, which the lapse of time has produced, afford a series of examples of almost every age and style. We need only state, that the five windows, which present themselves to our notice on either side, display in the sweep and construction of their arches alone five different characters; embracing, apparently, as many centuries. But it is on the sculptured enrichments of the oldest parts of the fabric that the imagination dwells with peculiar satisfaction. 'In these enrichments,' to adopt the language of an enthusiastic writer on a similar occasion, who was practically conversant with the subject, 'we can discover much of the *Saxon* taste, and the dawnings of those bright efforts of an inexhaustible fancy for ornamental embellishments, which our *Norman* architectural ancestors have so abundantly left behind them, to charm our eyes, and to inform our minds [b].'

The date of the original construction of this church has long been a subject of inquiry, and a point much contested by architects and antiquaries. Nothing certain is known respecting it, except that the ADVOWSON of it was given to the canons of the monastery of Kenilworth in Warwickshire, by Juliana de S. Remigio [c], together with some land in Cowley, and at Mollington in Warwickshire. The church therefore, we may presume, is anterior to this donation; and nearly coeval with that of Kenilworth, to which it was annexed. Most architects are of opinion, from a comparison with other structures

[b] Carter's 'Ancient Architecture of England,' P. I. p. 34.

[c] See Dugdale's Monasticon, vol. II. p. 117; and Warwickshire, under Mollington, p. 414. See also pp. 14, 15 of this account.

both in this country and in Normandy, that it was built early in the twelfth century. Warton in his History of Kiddington says, that it was erected by a bishop of Lincoln, in that century; but he gives no authority for the assertion [d]. If it be true, that bishop was probably Robert de Cheney; who was a great builder. At the west end of the church of Kenilworth is a highly enriched arch, which accords in character with the general architecture of this church. This is ascertained to be of the time of Bernard the first prior; to whom lands were delivered at Kenilworth 'ad opus ecclesiæ' by the elder Geoffry de Clinton, and confirmed by Henry I. To this may be added, that in the first charter of endowment by this same Geoffry, bishop Roger of Sarum occurs as a witness. He died in the year 1139; and the church of Kenilworth was then founded.

PLAN.—This edifice consists of a NAVE, TOWER, and CHANCEL; without any transept, or side aisles. The western front consists of three stories, embellished in a similar manner. A wide portal, enriched with receding arches, and a profusion of elaborate sculpture, occupies the centre of the first story; on each side of which is a narrow and lofty arcade of ornamental masonry. In the centre of the second story are the traces of a circular window of uncommon dimensions; into which a mullioned window, of no very elegant form, has been subsequently introduced. The original window, in the interior, must have been nearly thirty feet in circumference. Above this, in the third, or gable story, are the

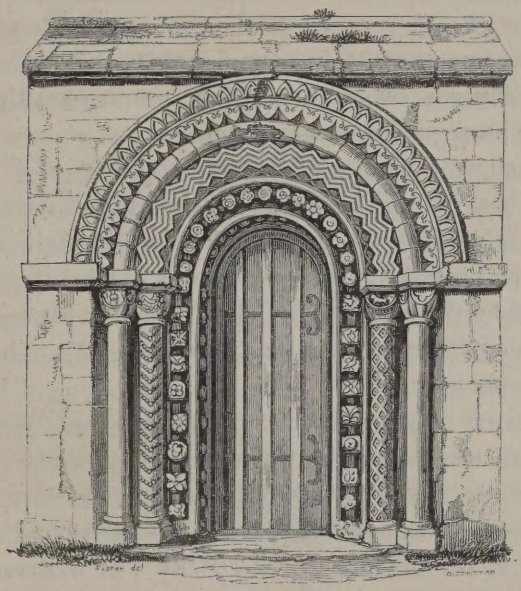
[d] See Warton's Kiddington, p. 11, ed. 1815.—The reader may seek in vain for any additional information on this point from Ducarel, Grose, Gough, King, Britton, Brewer, or even the Gentleman's Magazine for 1791 and 1818; where there are views of the church.

remains of four other windows, highly decorated with zigzags, &c.; which, having been rendered almost useless by the substitution of a modern roof and ceiling under the situation which they occupy, have been long since stopped, and are now merely ornamental arcades. A part of this gable was restored a few years since, chiefly at the expense of the late Mr. Robert Bliss, from an old engraving; and with so much care and judgment, that it is almost impossible to distinguish the restored work from that which has never been injured.

The sweep of the three lowermost of these windows, particularly of the central one, is elliptical; but there is no appearance of sinking. The small window above has its exact counterpart in the eastern gable. This circumstance, in conjunction with the flat buttresses, the old string courses, and other appearances of the external walls, satisfactorily proves that the ground-plan and general dimensions of the church are the same as at first; though the interior and exterior have undergone considerable alteration.

The first change observable is in the CHANCEL; the internal arrangement of which exhibits a distinct character. The eastern compartment is so totally different from the one immediately to the west of it, that most architects have imagined it to be a subsequent addition. The groins of the roof are quite plain, instead of being richly ornamented with zigzag work, the windows are pointed, without any trace of the circular heads over them; and the whole is of the early pointed English style, which succeeded to the rich Norman of the rest of the church, and must be at least a century later, if not more. It is only by a careful examination of the exterior we are convinced, that the walls themselves

form part of the original fabric: and that the interior has been fitted up afresh, probably as a Lady chapel; parted off by a screen and steps from the western portion of the chancel. These two compartments afford, in juxtaposition, as fine specimens as any which remain to us in their respective styles of architecture. If we might hazard a conjecture, probably the new work originated with Robert de Efteley, sometimes written Esteley, the seventh prior of Kenilworth; a native of this village.



THE SOUTH PORCH.

The beautiful PORTALS, north and south, are as fresh and perfect as when newly erected. That on the north side abounds chiefly in masonic decorations of the most chaste and elegant simplicity. The other, on the south, displays an exuberance of sculptured embellishments,

exemplified in an union of classical and hieroglyphical subjects, which is truly astonishing. The spectator is here reminded of the tale of the centaurs and of the exploits of Theseus. On one of the capitals a female centaur is represented nursing her young; and on an adjoining one is another feeding and protecting the parent. On one is a lioness overthrowing a horse, with the saddle on his back, the rider having escaped; whilst on the opposite side a man is represented vanquishing an animal of the most wild and ferocious description. On another we observe a warrior on horseback pursuing another horseman at full speed; while the latter is seen brandishing a sword in his right arm, and falling back on his pursuer, apparently wounded.

Amongst a variety of grotesque and fanciful decorations, both within and without; intermixed with eagles, lions, sphinxes, roses, signs of the zodiac, the head of a Norman king, &c.; we see the doves of Christianity contrasted by the fiery dragon with his tail in his mouth, or the salamander in a circle; the symbols of eternity and future punishment.

There is only one of the original windows remaining on each side of the NAVE, westward of these portals; more modern windows having been inserted in the room of the other four on both sides. A battlement has been added to the parapet of the TOWER [e], as well as to the south wall of the nave. The corbels of the latter are square

[e] The ancient cornice to the square compartments, in which the windows of this tower are placed, is singularly curious; having triangular apertures, like pigeon-holes, alternately arranged with the semicircles. See Carter's 'Ancient Architecture of England.' P. I. p. 30. The battlement is properly given in outline in his plate of details; being a later work. In the belfry are six bells; two of which have the dates 1592 and 1646.

blocks, quite plain, with the exception of two. The east window and the two next to it, north and south, now partly walled up, are of the earliest lancet shape, with unornamented jambs. The next pair, north and south, are about a century later, and of increased dimensions; having one central munnion, which divides them into double lights, though without tracery; except that the head of each window is filled with a plain quatrefoil, within a circle; the first effort of fenestral embellishment. In the broader span of the windows, which have been inserted to give light to the space under the belfry, the transition to a later style is strongly marked: but in the contiguous windows of the nave, which exhibit similar tracery, the arches are more flattened, and assume a character totally distinct; though they are probably nearly coeval with those of the two preceding.

The original Norman windows must have been of unusually large dimensions, and very richly ornamented; corresponding with the west end. They may still be distinctly traced in the interior: the sweep of the arches being in some instances left, and in most the outer line of zigzag mouldings: particularly under the tower, and in the adjoining compartment eastward; where the arches must have been nearly as lofty and as rich, in their original state, as those which divide the nave and chancel.

In the interior was formerly a SCREEN, removed not long since, which separated the nave from the chancel; with a staircase, excavated in the wall, leading to the roodloft, &c.; introduced probably in the fifteenth century. The doorways are walled up; but there is a small aperture still visible on the outside, which was probably intended to give light to the staircase. The stone steps

leading to the original pulpit, which was also of stone, still remain; serving to form the ascent to the present pulpit, which rests on the old pedestal of freestone. The stalls also for the three officiating ministers of the altar, together with the ambries, a benetier, or piscina, and other accompaniments of the ancient worship, are carefully preserved in the chancel[f], called traditionally 'the Lady chapel;' this church being dedicated to the Virgin Mary, as was that of Kenilworth.

The FONT, which is a very early and curious specimen, is quite perfect; and stands near the west end. It is of uncommonly large dimensions; being about three feet six inches square: supported by a large central column[g], and four others of smaller diameter at the angles. Three of these have fluted sweeps, resembling some of those on the exterior of the church: the fourth is half round, and half square, with singular mouldings at the base; but none of them have any capitals. The upper part is of black marble, similar to that of four columns of an octangular shape, attached to the piers which support the tower; but the basin, which is about three feet in diameter, is of lead; fixed in the square block. A small perspective view of it is here given in a woodcut: another accompanies a Dissertation on Fonts, by Mr. Gough, in the tenth volume of the Archæologia; and a front

[f] In the chancel is a square tomb of freestone, with a slab of black marble upon it, which once contained several brasses, of which the outlines are still distinct: and in front is the name of Mr. Arthur Pitts, who died May 16, 1579. There is also an inscription to the memory of Barten Holyday, who died in 1641: and on the south side of the chancel lies buried the celebrated Saxon scholar, EDWARD THWAITES, fellow of Queen's college; who died in 1711.

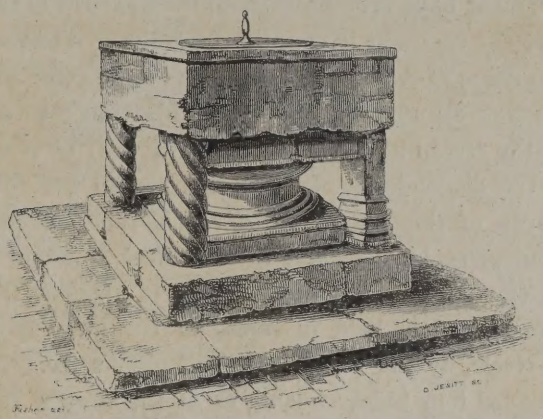
[g] This was called the 'stole' of the font so late as 1468; that is, the *stool*, or pedestal. V. Archæol. X. 179.

F. Mackenzie. J. LeKeux.

INTERIOR OF IFFLEY CHURCH.

Published April 1, 1834, by J. H. Parker, Oxford; C. Tilt, Fleet Street; & J. LeKeux, Hermondsworth.

view may be seen in Carter's 'Ancient Architecture of England [h].'



THE FONT.

In the southern part of the churchyard are the remains of an ancient cross of stone, but there are no traces of sculpture upon it. The shaft, which is octagonal, is about nine feet high. Near it is a very old yew tree, the trunk of which is of uncommon size, but much decayed. Both appear in our general view from the S.W.

The MANOR.—It has been erroneously stated, that earl Aubrey (Albericus) held Iffley at the time of the Norman survey. This is not strictly true; for all his possessions, though situated in five different counties, are invariably recorded in the past tense,—'tenuit;' and on several occasions this memorandum occurs: 'These lands did belong to earl Aubrey, but are now in the hands of the king.' In one instance he is accused, in a marginal note, of having dispossessed the church of Coventry of

[h] In that valuable work are many other etchings of parts of Iffley church, with the details, &c. See note [e], p. 6.

land given to it by earl Alwin in the time of Edward the Confessor. The period, therefore, in which he held Iffley, must have been anterior to the date of the survey[i]. Before the conquest it was the freehold of a Saxon chief of the name of Azor, or Hazor; and from some cause or other was reduced in value after his time; as appears from the record above mentioned[k]. It may be remarked, that the descendants of Nigel, a Norman, are found to be lords of this manor for a considerable period after the conquest, by the name of Fitz-Neele. From an extract of an inquisition 39 Hen. III. it appears, that the manor was then held in capite of the king by Robert Fitz-Neele, by the service of one knight's fee. It comprehended four hides of land, as at the time of the conqueror's survey; that is, about 480 acres in tillage; and was valued at 22*l.*

In the more extended rolls of the hundred, 7 Ed. I, many interesting particulars are recorded, which illustrate the history of this parish; the general state of property, manners, customs, agriculture, &c. They occupy about three columns folio in the abbreviated type of the printed records; so that we can do little more than notice the principal occupiers of the soil.

The summary of the whole survey is this: 'That the free tenants, or freeholders, as well of Littlemore as of

[i] Dugdale calls him 'an Englishman.' Baronage, I. 188.

[k] The following is the entry in the Domesday survey: 'XVIII. The land of Earl Albericus (Aubrey.) Earl Aubrey held Givetelei (Iffley) of the king. There are iiij hides. The land consists of VI carucates. In demesne is I carucate with V serfs: and xiiij villeins with VI boarders (boors) have iiij carucates. There is a fishery producing a rent of four shillings; xxiiij acres of meadow; and I furlong of pasture. There is also a grove, ij acres in length and breadth. It was worth C shillings: now iiij pounds. Azor held it freely in the time of king Edward.' Fol. 157 b.

Little Iffley, and the tenants of William Burgan, and the rector of the CHURCH of Iffley, and the prior of Kenilworth, shall give scutage, or escuage, when it happens, for four hides of land and a *half*, gildable to the lord of Iffley; who is the mesne lord between them and the king.' This *half* hide, in addition to the former four, seems to have constituted the property of William Burgan above mentioned; which was long afterwards called 'Burganham,' to distinguish it from the rest of the parish. It was held of the lord of Iffley by the payment of an annual quit rent, merely nominal; that is, a pound of pepper and a pound of cummin; with suit of court at Iffley and at the court of the hundred. This portion of the manor is probably the same which is now vested in Lincoln college. The manor house, which is now occupied by Mrs. Nowell, is on the south side of the church.

The inhabitants of Iffley, at the time of this survey, claimed the appointment of a head-tythingman, and a taster of ale, in the lord's court, &c.

The state of agriculture appears from the following facts: There were fifteen tenants on the manor, each of whom held half a yardland; that is, about fifteen acres on an average; for which they were each to pay an annual rent of *three shillings* to the lord of Iffley. But the lord had a right to select from them, according to his own will, carters, shepherds, and harvestmen; those who were put to such employments not being bound to give rent: and if the lord chose to assemble them all to work for him, each was to be paid by an allowance of the three shillings rent. They were to carry out cans, or pitchers, as long as the work continued; a breakfast being considered sufficient for them; and then to return.

Also in Little Iffley and in Cowley were seventeen

customary[1] tenants; each of whom held half a yardland by a similar payment of three shillings in annual rent, or the rent was to be commuted for work done with carts, horses, and servants, at the will of the lord: and they were bound to go on day-work to a distance of twenty leagues, at the pleasure of the lord; but they were to have their sustenance from the lord, and their allowance of rent, as before. There were also seven cottagers on the manor, at an annual rent of 11*s.* 10*d.*: who were bound moreover to make the lord's hay; and each of them, after every day's work, according to the custom of the manor, was permitted to have a '*yelm*'[m] of hay. In like manner, in the autumn, each was bound to give the lord three days work, when required; and at the end of the day, in return, was to have a sheaf of corn as large as a band of its own would admit of its being made. They were also to pay to the lord of Iffley their 'church-scot[n],' namely, twenty-four head of poultry.

Several cottages in the parish of St. Clement belonged at this time to the fee of Iffley; among others, five were

[1] These tenants were generally called, in common parlance, COPYHOLDERS; because, though they held their lands and tenements according to the *custom* of the manor, whence they were called 'custumarii,' yet from a very early period they had a *copy* of the court roll delivered to them, to give additional security to their tenures.

[m] This expression is now applied only to straw prepared for thatching. It nearly corresponds with the word *truss;* being as much as a man could carry in his arms.

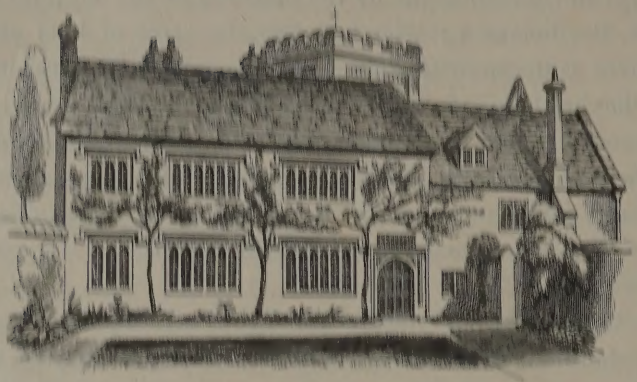
[n] 'Chirshat,' in the original. Some antiquaries and lawyers, from the corrupt manner in which this word has been written, have distinguished, unnecessarily perhaps, between 'church-scot,' ecclesiastical oblations, and 'church-seed,' *primitiæ seminum,* or, as they explain it, *semen ecclesiæ,* due on St. Martin's day. The Norman scribes sometimes wrote it 'cherchez.' The best interpretation, as usual, is in Spelman's Glossary.

held in frankalmoigne by the brethren of the hospital of St. Bartholomew; who had also six acres of land and three cottages with the appurtenances in Burganham. The brethren of the Temple at Cowley had likewise three cottages at MOTTISHEY, the gift of Henry de Garsindone; with other tenements and lands; and two acres, with a meadow, given by William de Garsindone, 'to maintain the lamp of the Blessed Mary of Temple-Cowley.'

William de la Fenne held of the fee of Iffley four acres of land for two shillings and threepence, to be paid to the CHURCH of Iffley for the maintenance of THREE lamps. This is said to be 'from an ancient enfeoffment.' The rector of St. Mary's church in Oxford (afterwards appropriated to Oriel college) held half an acre of land, with the appurtenances, from the gift and enfeoffment of Hugh Sered (*Sheard.*) The abbot of Oseney, in addition to a small rent given in frankalmoigne from a certain tenement in the manor, possessed fifteen acres of land, which lay for half a yard-land. This had also been a part of William Burgan's estate [o].

[o] Richard de Saunford, or Sandford, who is mentioned in the hundred rolls of 7 Ed. I. as holding a yardland at the rent of six shillings payable to Robert Fitz-Neele, lord of Iffley, died seized of the same in 1290, 18 Ed. I; and the land is described in the inquisition roll as in Little Iffley. Radulphus de Sanford held half a yardland for a small quitrent; the gift of the lady Juliana of St. Remi. Richard Fitz-Neele had a charter of free warren in Iffley 27 Ed. I, but the manor was granted and confirmed by charter 9 Richard II. to sir Richard Abberbury, knt. the builder of Donnington castle, Berks; who in the 16th year of the same king's reign obtained a license to settle the said manor, there called YIFTELEY, with all its appurtenances for ever, on his newly founded hospital near the castle.

The brethren of the hospital of St. John in Oxford are recorded as having several acres of land at HERTESHEVED (Hartshead) and elsewhere, which their successors in Magdalene college now possess.



THE RECTORY HOUSE.

The RECTORY.—The rector of the church of Iffley, at the time of the inquisition which took place 7 Edward I. 1279, held four acres of arable land and two acres of meadow in demesne; with two yardlands in villenage, which produced a rent of 12*s.* per annum to the said rector for the time being; and the villeins were bound to work for the said rector during the time of haymaking and harvest, according to his will. There were also three cottages which produced 6*s.*, and the occupiers were bound to work according to the will of the said rector.

It is recorded in this Survey, that Juliana of ST. REMI, in Latin 'de sancto Remigio,' formerly lady of the manor, gave the aforesaid land, with the cottages and all the rest of the appurtenances, and the advowson[p] of

[p] It was soon after appropriated to the archdeacon of Oxford for the time being, to whom it still belongs. In the Taxation of pope Nicholas, published by the record commissioners, where *Ifiele* is erroneously printed for *Iffiele*, the church is valued among the spiritualities of the see of Lincoln at 14*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* In Bacon's 'Liber Regis' it is called a vicarage, and rated at 8*l.*; but in a note below it is de-

the CHURCH, together with her own body, to the prior and convent of KENILWORTH. This, according to Dugdale, was in the time of Henry II.

The prior of Kenilworth also held one yardland of the fee of Iffley, with the appurtenances, which he derived from the gift of Robert the 'palfrey-groom' of the lady Juliana de St. Remi; which land he also received as a gift from the lady herself.

The present house attached to the rectory has a venerable appearance, but it has undergone considerable alterations. The oblong windows are singular, some having three lights, others six; though some of the latter are walled up. Our woodcut represents them entire.

The oldest register begins in the year 1572; and the Act of Inclosure is dated 22d June, 1815. The population has been nearly doubled in the course of thirty years, between 1801 and 1831; as appears from the population abstract printed in the latter year.

The MILL.—The picturesque appearance of Iffley Mill has often attracted the notice of artists; and a portion of it is here given in a woodcut, from a beautiful drawing by Mr. Mackenzie. There has been a mill here almost from time immemorial. In the survey of 7 Ed. I. it is noticed in conjunction with a messuage and yardland and four acres of meadow, with a free water for fishing from the village of Iffley to the mill called Boymill [q]. But there was an annual rent of forty-four shil-

scribed as 'a curacy served by the appointment of the archdeacon of Oxford, who is the impropriator.' It was certified to the Governors of Queen Anne's Bounty to be of the yearly value of 12*l.*; but having not been certified into the exchequer by virtue of the discharging acts, it still remains charged. *Ibid.* V. Valor Hen. viij. vol. II. p. 171, 173.

[q] A fishery is also recorded as belonging to Littlemore, 'in aqua TAMISIE inter SANDFORD et IFTELE.' Hundred Rolls, p. 723.

lings payable to the lord of Iffley. This mill, with the appurtenances, has long been the property of Lincoln college. The sum of 400*l.* was given in 1622, by sir Francis Stonor and William Wickham [r] of Abingdon, to Philip Pitts of Iffley, for his interest in a lease of this property for sixty-one years granted by the college in the time of queen Elizabeth to his father, Arthur Pitts, before mentioned.

THE MILL.

[r] This William Wickham is supposed to be the founder of the Garsington branch of that family; one of whom, of the same name, was a fellow of Trinity college. Two co-heiresses carried the estates by marriage into the family of the Drakes of Shardeloes, near Amersham.